

No formal reply on eve of summit

Israel plays cat-and-mouse on peace talks

From Susan Ellicott in Washington and Richard Beeston in Jerusalem

ISRAEL toyed with the world yesterday over a Middle East peace conference as President Bush and President Gorbachev prepared for their meeting in Moscow tomorrow.

While Moshe Arens, the Israeli defence minister, reaffirmed that Israel would be prepared to attend a conference, the Israeli cabinet did not even discuss the matter. An official said that the government was awaiting clarification from the Americans about the Palestinian delegation.

Mr Bush, James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser, had all made it clear to the Israeli government that they would like a formal reply before the start of the summit, when the United States and the Soviet Union had hoped to send out invitations to the various participants.

Instead, Mr Bush was forced to admit yesterday that the White House has yet to receive an official response from Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister. "I heard that Arens was very upbeat, and we view that as positive," he said. "It's in

their interests to go to this conference."

Mr Arens had earlier told interviewers on ABC News television: "In principle the answer is positive."

But at the weekly Israeli cabinet meeting, the first full ministerial forum since Mr Baker left Jerusalem a week ago, the subject was not even discussed. When one minister asked Mr Shamir why the subject was not raised, he was told that it was not on the agenda this week.

"We are prepared to go to a peace conference to talk, but we have a few questions the Americans promised to answer and we are checking with them," Avner Shalev, the religious affairs minister, said yesterday. "Israel has, in principle, said yes but this yes is conditioned by the Palestinians not being from East Jerusalem and not being PLO [Palestine Liberation Organisation], that's all."

However, Mr Arens's comments appeared likely to soften Washington's disappointment or irritation that the Israeli cabinet had failed to discuss the peace process. Israel has been portrayed in the United States in recent days as the chief impediment, since Syria has agreed to participate. Since the end of the Gulf war, in which Israel was a loyal American ally, the Bush administration has expressed frustration with Israel's slowness to respond.

A White House spokeswoman described Mr Arens's remarks as "a positive sign" and said that the Bush administration "looked forward to" a formal confirmation.

Mr Arens said his remarks represented the government. He described his country as "very close" to accepting a preliminary meeting that would later split into bilateral talks. Israel's public agreement was "no more than a formality" after Mr Baker's recent visit, he said, noting that players had resolved the issue of how Palestinians should be represented in the peace talks. But he hinted that Israel had not agreed to relinquish some of its occupied territories in order to achieve peace with its Arab neighbours, including Syria.

One stumbling block to

Israeli participation was representation of Palestinians in territories occupied by Israel. Mr Arens said that issue had been resolved.

"We have reached agreement with the United States over the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and agreed that it should not include anybody from the PLO, nor a resident of Jerusalem," he said.

"I think we are very close to a general agreement that will allow an initial meeting to take place and then break up into bilateral talks," he said.

Asked when Israel's decision might be made public, Arens said, "I consider that no more than a formality."

It was not clear yesterday whether Mr Shamir was simply displaying his tough negotiating position or if he hoped to avoid attending the peace conference by placing unacceptable preconditions on the Palestinian side, which would then be blamed for undermining the entire process.

The mood in government and among the public is still optimistic that Israel will eventually accept to attend the talks, but the obstacles are still very serious, said one well placed official.

In the past few days Mr Shamir and his ministers have made it clear that they regard Syria's agreement to hold face-to-face negotiations as a genuine and important offer. However, the entire concept of trading land for peace, as the peace talks are destined to do, remains anathema to the rightwing ideologues running the country.

The point was driven home over the weekend when the Israeli ministry of defence confirmed that it had been giving land in the occupied territories free to Jewish settlers and that 380 new housing units are due to be built in the Golan Heights, the area captured and later annexed by Israel which Syria wants back.

"Is Israel not going to quit the occupied lands, why should we want peace?" asked the Syrian leader Hafez Assad in an interview with *Newsweek* today.

Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the PLO said yesterday that he was ready for peace with Israel.



High and mighty: Viv Richards, the West Indies captain who scored 73 not out, savouring victory at Edgbaston as jubilant supporters carry him from the field

Richards sees off England

By MEL WEBB

ENGLAND'S cricketers were duly beaten by seven wickets by West Indies in the fourth Test match at Edgbaston yesterday, but not before defiant rearguard action by their tailenders had taken the match well into the final session of play for the day.

Chris Lewis and Derek Pringle, the all-rounders, put on 92 runs, a record for the English ninth wicket against West Indies in England, and the tourists were left to score 152 for victory. England made an impressive start when Phillip DeFreitas took the first three West Indian wickets for 24, but then Viv Richards, the West Indies captain, and Carl Hooper added 133 in an unbroken stand to leave England 2-1 down in the series with one Test to come.

Nigel Mansell yesterday won his third motor racing grand prix in succession, at Hockenheim in Germany, taking him to within eight points of Ayrton Senna, the leader in the world drivers' championship.

Nupee drops target on minimum wage

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE National Union of Public Employees has pulled away from its commitment to a specific minimum wage target of two-thirds of average male earnings in a move that is likely to please Labour leaders while adding to the divisions among unions.

The change of emphasis from the union, which has been the greatest proponent of the national minimum wage, comes in a resolution to the annual conference of the TUC which suggests instead only

gradual uprating of incomes to "some more generally accepted European decency level".

Nupee was almost single-handedly responsible for getting the proposal for a minimum wage into Labour party policy after the campaigning of Rodney Bickerstaffe, its general secretary, who fought against the view of Labour leaders who saw the issue as one on which a future Labour government could not legislate early. The union organised a team of experts to prepare a draft bill to be ready for Neil Kinnock's first day as prime minister.



Bickerstaffe: drafted pay bill for Neil Kinnock

The government will seek to capitalise on deep divisions in the trade unions over plans for the minimum wage and other Labour plans on pay and employment law which are revealed in preliminary resolutions to the conference in Glasgow in September, published today. Such divisions have given fertile political ground to Michael Howard, the employment secretary.

The CPSA clerical civil servants' union rejects the

US gives Saddam a new warning

By SUSAN ELLICOTT AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU

PRESIDENT Bush said yesterday that Saddam Hussein would be making "an enormous mistake" if Baghdad failed to reveal all its nuclear capabilities. Not all the allies are equally enthusiastic about renewed military action; Turkey yesterday ruled out the use of one of its key bases to launch an air strike. But the president expressed confidence that force would find general support.

He denied he had a specific deadline in mind, telling reporters at Andrews air force base: "We are talking to our other friends and allies about this. There is unanimity that this lying and secreting of material must stop." His remarks came as a team of UN nuclear inspectors received fresh information in their hunt for further evidence of an Iraqi nuclear weapons programme.

"There were new items as well as answers to questions that we asked," the chief inspector, David Kay, told reporters. "It was information on their programme - material status, nuclear activities, nuclear programme." Some of the information was volunteered by Iraq, he added.

Iraq must declare and scrap its weapons of mass destruction under the ceasefire terms imposed after its Gulf war defeat at the end of February. The United States said last week that Baghdad had failed to make a full disclosure by a July 25 deadline set by the UN Security Council.

The Turkish prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, yesterday delivered the latest setback to US efforts to build support for possible further military action against Iraq, by ruling out the Incirlik air base as the take-off point for American aircraft. Mr Yilmaz's remarks in eastern Turkey highlighted the disquiet among some of America's allies about President Bush's willingness to strike at Iraq if diplomatic pressure fails to persuade Baghdad to reveal its full nuclear capability.

The latest team of UN investigators in Iraq are experts from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency. Yesterday, they visited Tuwaitha, south east of Baghdad, where Iraq set up a

Falklands veteran faces the axe

The future of HMS *Endurance* has exposed divisions between two ministries over protecting the Falklands

Defence officials have privately recommended the scrapping of Britain's only naval presence in the south Atlantic, HMS *Endurance*, and have put forward no plans to replace her. Whitehall sources disclosed yesterday.

A confidential defence ministry minute, shown to *The Times*, says that naval experts rate the risks of sending the Antarctic patrol ship on another long trek south this autumn as "notoriously high" because of serious structural damage.

The recommendation will go to Tom King, the defence secretary, who is expected to seek Cabinet approval later this summer to scrap the ship, which is lying up in Portsmouth dry dock.

But a senior ministry source commented yesterday: "The decision was taken quietly last week not to send her back again."

The withdrawal of *Endurance* from the seas around the Falklands in 1981 was seen as the signal to Argentina of Britain's lack of interest in the region, provoking the invasion. In an historic military victory the old ship's two Wasp helicopters disabled the Argentinean submarine Santa Fe before the arrival of the task force.

The ministry minute, written last week, coincides with the surprise intervention of the foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, in the row over *Endurance*'s future. In a letter to Mr King, Mr Hurd warned against failing to meet Britain's responsibilities in the region, including the Falklands and Belize.

The deteriorating relations between the two departments as the planned defence cuts under *Options for Change* leads to the withdrawal of British forces which also fulfil a foreign policy role. In addition, the ministry's plans overshadow the Foreign Office's own review of future policy for the dependent territories.

It was disclosed to *The Times* yesterday that the

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German inflation hinders rate cuts

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE government has called a temporary halt to further cuts in interest rates because of fears over the effects of a rise in inflation in Germany. The government is anxious lest the German authorities raise interest rates to bring their economy under control, thus boosting the mark further against the pound.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, confirmed yesterday that he expected retail price inflation in Britain to fall below 4 per cent by the end of the year, lower than inflation in Germany. After the four point cut in rates since sterling joined the European exchange-rate mechanism last

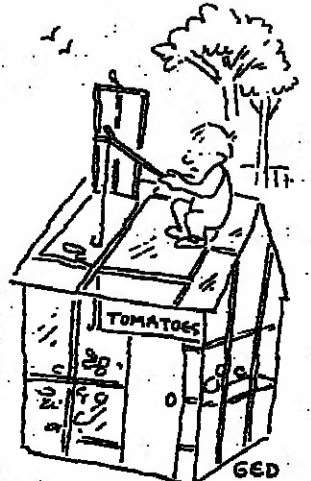
October, the gap between British and German interest rates has narrowed sharply and the government is anxious to avoid any risk that it might have to raise interest rates again before the next election if increases in German interest rates put pressure on the pound.

Mr Lamont, speaking on BBC radio, said he would wait and see what the Germans did and avoid any hasty action. The Treasury's *Quarterly Bulletin* says there is no reason to revise the Chancellor's forecast that the economy will start recovering later this year.

Treasury confident, page 21

I say tomato, you say winter flounder

By NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR



SCIENTISTS have taken a gene from an Arctic fish to try to produce fruit and vegetables that can be frozen without losing taste and texture.

The first crop of tomatoes incorporating an antifreeze gene modelled on that of the winter flounder are growing in a field in northern California. When the fruit are ripe, they will be frozen and then defrosted, to see if the gene works as well in fruit as it does in fish. Strawberries, notoriously poor freezers, could also benefit from the technique.

DNA Plant Technology, an agricultural biotechnology company based in Oakland, California, looked to the winter flounder to provide the magic

ingredient because it can survive in water cold enough to freeze it without suffering any harm. In common with some other species of fish, it possesses a special protein which affects the way the water in its body responds to freezing temperatures.

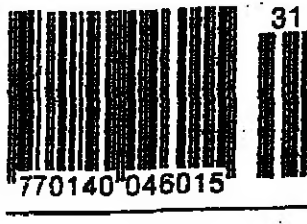
Ice normally grows by forming a succession of nuclei at the boundary between the water and the ice. Each nucleus is formed on the one before, in a process in which the ice face advances. The antifreeze protein interferes with this by binding to the interface and stopping the growth of ice. It also inhibits a second process, recrystallisation, in which bigger ice crystals grow at the expense of smaller ones, and which is thought to be a major cause of tissue damage in frozen fruit and vegetables.

Pam Dunsmuir and Gary Warren constructed a synthetic gene modelled on that of the flounder and inserted it into tomato plants. They have demonstrated that the tomato plants produce the protein.

"Now we need to see what happens when the tomatoes are frozen," Dr Warren says. "The protein is a very potent inhibitor of tissue damage, so we certainly hope it is going to work."

The main process of damage in foods which do not freeze well is the growth of ice crystals which shatter the plant's cells, making them mushy when they are defrosted. If this can be prevented, much more appetising frozen food should be possible. There is no reason to suppose that the incorporation of the gene into crop plants will alter their flavour.

INDEX	
Arts	11-18
Births, marriages, deaths	16, 17
Business	21-24
Classified	12, 13, 17, 30
Court & social	16
Crosswords	17, 20
Education	2, 13
Focus: Docklands	25-29
Law Report	31
Leading articles	15
Letters	10
Life and Times	16
Obituaries	10
Sport	31-36
TV & radio	19
Weather	30



Car makers slow down after 50,000 jobs and £3bn sales lost

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE car industry is suffering its worst round of job losses and short-time working for more than a decade as it faces lost sales this year worth £3.6 billion.

In spite of interest rate cuts, sales of new cars are continuing to plummet towards their lowest level since 1982, forcing manufacturers into extensive plans to shut down assembly lines in the autumn.

A report by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders to be published tomorrow will say that the recession has already cost the industry more than 50,000 lost jobs in a year in an industry that employs 350,000 in car factories and component suppliers, and that redundancies are expected to grow. The report

will be used by manufacturers as further evidence that government policies of high taxation on car users, reinforced in the March budget by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, have hit Britain's single biggest manufacturing industry hard.

That could mean severe curtailment of the huge investment by car makers over the past decade unless the government reduces the tax burden on the industry.

Garel Rhys, head of economics at Cardiff Business School and adviser to the Commons select committee on trade and industry, said: "What signals the government thinks it is giving to the major vehicle makers in the UK can only be wondered at. As regards

the Japanese projects, the potential size and nature of the vehicle mix in the market was a major input into their plans.

"Budgets such as the recent one could severely alter these factors and put long-term plans in jeopardy. The motor industry in the UK can be forgiven for feeling betrayed and beleaguered."

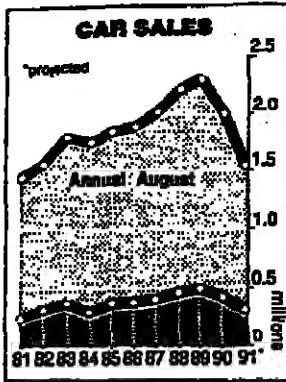
More than 600,000 unsold cars are thought to be stockpiled around the country. Most would normally be soaked up in the traditional boom month of August, by motorists rushing to buy cars with the J registration plate.

The bleakest estimates are that August this year may account for only 320,000 cars out of that stockpile, leaving the industry with more than 250,000 still to

JOBS HIT BY SALES LOSSES		
	Jobs gone	Jobs to go
ROVER	2,000	1,200
FORD	1,000	2,000
JAGUAR	1,000	500
ASTON MARTIN	85	0
ROLLS-ROYCE	750	500
PEUGEOT TALBOT	250	0

sell in the final four months of the year even without further output.

Of seven big British manufacturers checked by *The Times*, only two, Nissan and Vauxhall, were not taking immediate measures to cut production. Nissan admitted, however, that 90 per cent output from its factory at Washington, Tyne and



Wear, was going for export, which means fewer than 15,000 of the Primera cars it makes may be sold in Britain this year.

Vauxhall has also switched its efforts to exports, announcing an order from Germany for 15,000 cars late last week.

John Barber, director of manufacturing of the com-

pany's main plant in Luton, Bedfordshire, issued a warning at the same time that the huge drop in demand in the British market may force short-time working soon.

"It is touch and go whether we will be able to maintain production and full-time working through to the last three months of the year," he said.

Ford, Britain's biggest car company, has been worst affected in spite of spending an estimated £12 million to promote price cuts of up to £2,000 on its cars over the next three months. Sales were down in the first half of this year by more than 72,000 cars, worth about £580 million.

As a result, Halewood, on Merseyside, which makes the Escort and Orion range, is shut down for five weeks and 8,500 workers face

three-day working for the rest of the year. About 1,000 jobs have gone this year and the company is planning reductions of up to 2,000 among white-collar workers throughout the business.

The price cuts have stimulated interest, with Ford reporting enquiries up by a third at its 1,000 dealers, but analysts fear that buyers, who would have waited until the end of the year are only being "pulled forward".

There is also no estimate yet of what the huge discounts, designed to keep cars moving out of the showrooms, have cost Ford, which made its first financial loss for 20 years in 1990 with a pre-tax deficit of £274 million.

A Ford spokesman said last night: "We are moving into the worst recession in the motor industry in living

memory." The cutbacks at other plants include: ● Rover - 2,000 jobs already lost through voluntary redundancy and natural wastage and a further 1,200 white-collar jobs to go; 12,000 at Longbridge on four-day week.

● Jaguar - 1,000 volunteers gone and 500 more to go; XJ6 saloon assembly lines to have seven days of lay-offs in September.

● Aston Martin Lagonda - 85 of the 535 workforce redundant and seven days of layoffs to come.

● Rolls-Royce - 750 jobs gone at Crewe and 500 to go at Millers Park Ward London plant. The Crewe factory is on extended three-week holiday.

● Peugeot Talbot - 350 jobs lost this year after some short time was worked earlier in year.

Revenue staff say decreased evasion could cut tax by 1p

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government could reduce the standard rate of income tax by a further 1p in the pound if it were more efficient in recovering tax legally due, according to Inland Revenue tax inspectors.

The inspectors believe that the recovery of a further £2 billion is achievable within what they call a "modest realignment of resources", which would allow the government either to increase public spending or reduce tax rates, by a further 1 percentage point from the present basic rate of 25 per cent.

Details of the inspectors' proposal are contained in the latest issue of the journal of their union, the Association of Inspectors of Taxes. The issue will be raised at the annual TUC conference in September in Glasgow, when the First Division Association, the senior civil servants' union, of which the tax inspectors' association is a part, proposes a motion. The motion, published today, registers "widespread disquiet" about the level of companies' tax avoidance and evasion.

Liz Symons, FDA's general secretary, said last night that the union would not be naming any particular companies or organisations that were paying less tax than they should, because of the priority given in the Revenue to what is called compliance work - investigating tax avoidance and evasion - but that the benefit from more efficient compliance would be significant.

"We hope that this is useful contribution to the debate about the citizen's charter and the taxpayer's charter that the prime minister has promised."

The union's detailed proposals show that the expected Revenue tax yield from compliance for 1991-2 is £3.685 billion, and puts forward specific suggestions by which that could be increased to £5.687 billion.

Jim Williams, the tax inspectors' association vice-president, suggests three areas that are open to greater work on avoidance and evasion. He says that "tens of billions of pounds are tied up in trusts which are essentially avoidance devices". Secondly, the union says large public companies do not appear to be paying the level of tax that the scale of their operations would suggest they should. Thirdly, Mr Williams describes financial services as the "most doubtful of all", noting a "whole spate" of frauds against investors.

The union says that a number of the investigatory bodies, including the police, the Serious Fraud Office, the trade and industry department, Customs and Excise and others, could pool their expertise with the Revenue to increase successful recovery of tax in these areas.

With even more resources devoted to compliance, the union says there is no reason why the extra £2 billion could not be doubled.

Estonian vegetarian choir comes to town

By RONALD FAUX

WERE the beekeepers of Cheshire grazing more easily in their fields yesterday? An international gathering of 240 vegetarians at Chester college would have liked to think so as they propagated the moral, health and economic reasons for vegetarianism.

The European Vegetarian Union congress, meeting until Wednesday on a diet of salad, soya, spinach and aubergine, sees a stronger glimmer of light that could shine success on their cause. The college cooks handled their arrival without flinching, since 20 per cent of the students are converts to the nut culture, diced carrot and bean burger.

"The young people are becoming much more aware, far more insistent that vegetarian food is better for them," Maxwell Lee, president, declared. A glance around the assembled vegetarians revealed not a single bonpoint. Nimble figures lean as celery sticks compared notes on recipes and ways of encouraging meat-eaters out of their vices. Mr Lee made me guess the age of distinguished-looking vegetarians. "70," I hazarded one bearded figure. "88," he declared triumphantly.

The optimism sweeping the movement stems from government reports encouraging more fibre and fruit eating, a lower cholesterol intake. The union aims to convert the world if not through moral arguments that slaughtering animals is wrong then through a sense of self preservation.

Jane Brophy, research officer, who makes the bulletins for vegetarians to fire at a society reared on roast beef, points out that vegetarians live longer, suffer 57 per cent

less heart disease and 40 per cent fewer cancers. They are not so prone to obesity or diet-related diabetes, kidney stones and gall stones.

The society invited two delegates from each of the East European countries, where until recent reforms vegetarianism was regarded as bourgeois and capitalistic. Hulda Sabolotny, aged 79, from Tallinn, Estonia, and a member of the Estonian vegetarians choir attending the congress, said that for 30 years during the Russian occupation, vegetarians were not permitted.

A waitress arrived. In one hand was a meatless dish masquerading as a cornish pasty and in the other an alleged harvest pie. "Are you vegan or vegetarian, dear?" she asked. Mrs Sabolotny gave her a stern look: "Me, I am Estonian."



Image in progress: The Tin Man, a 300ft-long sculpture on Glasgow Green completed on Friday by Rob Mulholland, aged 30, after three

weeks of assembling more than 300,000 used alloy drink cans. Mr Mulholland, who runs a recycling firm, said that the image of a youth

hurling an empty can was a metaphor for the need to recycle materials. Scores of children helped to collect the cans while he

sketched out the figure using a grid system. The Tin Man will remain for two weeks, then the cans will be sold in aid of a children's hospital.

Dysentery outbreak affects 145

By THOMSON PRENTICE MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

PUBLIC health officers in Hull are striving to control an outbreak of dysentery that has affected 145 people, most of them children.

Most of the cases are being attributed to poor living conditions in the worst-affected eastern side of the city, inadequate personal hygiene, and damp weather conditions, which have caused bacteria to flourish. Only three children have been admitted to hospital with the condition, which causes severe diarrhoea. The standard treatment is rehydration, to replace lost fluids.

James Dunlop, director of public health in Hull, said that strict measures had been imposed to contain the outbreak, which began nine weeks ago.

Affected children, and their brothers and sisters, have been kept away from school. "Dysentery is highly infectious but the school holidays should help prevent further spread," he said. "We decided to take a tough line to control this epidemic, otherwise the figures would be a lot worse."

Recent wet weather probably helped to spread the bacteria which cause the disease. "We really need a heatwave in the next few weeks to put an end to it," Dr Dunlop said.

No action on MP for jail interview

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office cannot take action against a left-wing MP who secretly tape-recorded comments by Terry Fields, the imprisoned MP for Liverpool Broadgreen, during a prison visit by four MPs last week.

The recording broke visiting regulations which carry no penalties, according to the Prison Officers' Association. John Bartlett, the association's chairman, said that a governor can take action only against a prisoner. He was not surprised that a tape recorder had been taken into the prison, because it was unlikely that anyone would search the MPs. The recorder had been found, the most that could have been done would have been to confiscate it.

Fields, jailed for 60 days for

refusing to pay his poll tax, is facing expulsion from the Labour party for alleged links with Militant. After the announcement of a disciplinary hearing before the Labour national executive committee in September, a tape recording of his voice was released.

According to the Home Office, Bob Dixon, the governor of Liverpool prison, agreed to allow four Labour MPs, Ron Brown, Jeremy Corbyn, Bernie Grant and Ken Livingstone, to make a special visit to Fields. They were told of the rules governing visits and that they could not pass anything to a prisoner, nor were they allowed to have a mobile telephone.

The visit was given the same conditions as a special

visit permitted to prisoners from their lawyer. This means that it was not supervised and was held in a room away from the main visiting room.



Fields: tape recording during visit by MPs

Yesterday Mr Brown, MP for Edinburgh Leith, said he recorded the comments after being asked to do so by a reporter. He said: "I was approached. Nothing wrong in that. We believe in free speech, don't we? So if I am at fault, also the journalist is at fault. But again it comes back to any responsibility must be mine... It comes back to a petty rule. Is that important?"

"I thought it's more important to consider freedom of speech; after all, we could come out and say, Terry said this, that and whatever. It's more important for Terry himself to say his piece. Is that rule important, considering Terry is in effect a political prisoner?" he said.

Mr Brown, deselected by his constituency last year after being fined £1,000 for causing criminal damage to his former lover's flat, said the MPs were not searched before the visit and were asked only about whether they had mobile telephones. They were not asked about tape recorders.

The Home Office said last night that Fields had told Mr Dixon he had no idea that a statement was being recorded. The matter was not going to be taken any further. If any prisoner was detected acting in breach of the regulations he may face penalties for future visits, the spokesman added.

Leading article, page 15
Fatten dossier, page 20

Nalco seeks backing for strike

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

NALGO, the local government workers' union, is today urging its 500,000 white-collar members working for councils to vote to strike over a 6.4 per cent pay offer.

The union is in an emergency edition of its internal journal, is urging members being balloted on action to vote in favour of a ten-day series of all-out strikes over an eight-week period, plus indefinite strike action by about 5 per

cent of the union's membership in key areas of work. Nalco says that the pay offer is both unrealistic and below the going rate.

Alan Jinkinson, union general secretary, said yesterday: "The employers want to pick a fight. That's been their aim all along. They want to break the strength of local government workers." Ideally, he said, they would like to break Nalco "and leave local government

staff totally vulnerable". Local authorities say that 6.4 per cent is the most that hard-pressed councils can afford.

Nalco is likely to find it hard to get a vote for strike action. Negotiators for 900,000 council manual workers have just recommended acceptance of a 6.4 per cent pay deal, including a commitment to bring their hours in line with those of white-collar staff represented by Nalco.

Fiction is favourite as half of Britain curls up with a book

By ROBIN YOUNG

HALF the adult population are in the middle of reading a book. Three quarters of the women will be reading fiction, with romance the most popular category. A quarter of the 60 per cent of men who read fiction are gripped by a thriller.

This information is in *The Euromonitor Book Report 1991*, for which the readership survey was commissioned. The £325-a-copy report says that book sales in Britain were valued at £2,114 million last year, when a record 63,980 titles were published.

The average the public spend on each title, accordingly, would suffice

to buy only 101 copies of *Euromonitor's* epic. The tome discloses that romance, crime, adventure and the modern novel have held their places as the most popular fiction categories, while historical fiction gained ground.

In spite of the success enjoyed by books such as *Jilly Cooper's Polo* and *Maureen Warren's Having It All*, the modern novel suffered a significant drop among women readers, reversing a strong growth trend.

Apart from a trend back to old-fashioned bodice-rippers, *Euromonitor* suggests, growth areas are in niche areas such as feminism, the occult and dieting. They also note

that comic books, hitherto the preserve of small fringe operations, have attracted the attention of mainstream publishers such as Penguin and Gollancz.

Dane Howell, manager of London's largest branch of Waterstone's, was sceptical about the report's findings. "It upsets women if feminist books are not prominently displayed," he said, "but they don't actually sell especially well, and comic books are the sort of thing people take rather than buy. They may sell well somewhere, but they only appeal to shoplifters with us."

Mr Howell agreed, however, that public interest runs high in "mind,

spirit and body" books - which at Waterstone's encompass the occult - and the latest diet book.

Euromonitor says that for the past ten years readership levels have consistently been higher in the South and in Scotland than in the North, but the number of readers in Lancashire and the North-East has increased "quite significantly" over the past two years.

Fifty-four per cent of women were reading a book when the survey was carried out compared with 45 per cent of men. Men, however, are more likely to buy books while women are more inclined to borrow them from friends.

Two die as glider crashes into car

A COUPLE narrowly escaped injury yesterday when a glider on a training flight crashed into their car only minutes after they had left to have a picnic. The pupil pilot and his passenger were killed when the aircraft crashed into a field, slicing the roof off the car.

The incident happened after the glider took off from the Shalbourne Soaring Society, in Wiltshire, and fell to the ground at River Hill near by.

A member of the rescue team said: "As it came down, a wing hit the Volvo car, scything through the roof. The couple, who were having a picnic, had only just got out of the vehicle and were very lucky. If they had still been in it, they would almost certainly have been killed."

The couple, who watched the accident happen, were treated for shock. The passenger received severe injuries and died later in hospital in Swindon.

Chris Rollings, an accident investigator representing the British Gliding Association, said: "The aircraft spun from the top of the winch launch and, recovered from the spin with insufficient height to recover fully before impacting with the ground."

"There is no evidence to suggest that there was anything wrong with the aircraft before the crash," he said.

Officer cleared

A Scotland Yard detective leading investigations into the murder of PC Keith Blacklock at the Broadwater Farm Estate riot has been cleared by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, over allegations of disciplinary breaches in failing to give a juvenile access to a solicitor during questioning after the riot. Det Chief Supt Graham Melvin was found guilty by a discipline tribunal but his appeal was upheld.

Power study

A three-year feasibility study to determine whether a £1.6 billion nuclear power station is built at Chapelcross, Dumfries and Galloway, is to start next month. It follows a study which, earlier this year, said Chapelcross and Sellafield nearby were suitable for the development. The study will include assessments of geology, cooling water requirements, planning aspects and transmission costs.

Family fly out

The mother and sister of the missing British botanist Cassandra Clunies-Ross left for the Pacific island of Vanuatu last night as the jungle search continued for her. A Londoner aged 25, Miss Clunies-Ross was on an aircraft that failed to arrive at its destination on Thursday after a flight over Santo island. She was working for Voluntary Services Overseas.

Hostels for jails

Treatment of women in jail needs radical reform, according to a report yesterday by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. It calls for restructuring based on small hostels - "prisons" nearer to inmates' homes. In many cases it would recommend more home leave or extended family visits and provision of trained staff to allow inmates to keep babies with them.

CORRECTION

A quotation from Zvonko Leric, a senior adviser to President Tudjman of Croatia, was garbled in a despatch from Zagreb that appeared last Friday. It should have read: "Zvonko Leric... rejected allegations that Croatia is without a real defence strategy."

Two-children trend grows as birth rate falls by a quarter

EUROPE is undergoing a steep drop in the number of babies being born, with the birth rate falling by a quarter in the past 30 years, according to a report published today by the Family Policy Studies Centre.

The trend means that there are about 1.4 million fewer babies being born in the European Community this year than in 1960, a decline in the fertility rate equivalent to one baby for every woman in Europe.

In Britain the number of families having a third child has halved since 1960, with most parents believing that two children make an ideal family. The fertility rate for British women is 1.8, below the level of 2.1 children per woman that would maintain the existing population size.

The rate is lower in most of the other 11 EC countries. In Italy and Spain it is 1.3, in Germany 1.4 and in The Netherlands 1.6.

Meanwhile, the European population is ageing, and if present trends continue barely one in five Europeans will be aged under 20 in the year 2020, while more than a quarter will be over 60, the report says.

The declining birth rate in Europe is in sharp contrast to the global pattern. The world population is growing by 250,000 a day, and during the next ten years there will be a billion more people - equivalent to the present population of China - according to the United Nations.

The implications of the European changes are not just

The number of British families having a third child has halved. Thomson Prentice reports on the vogue in Europe

social, but economic and political, and could influence government policies, international relations, and migration, today's report says. They could lead to some EC member states pressing the European Commission to support "pro-birth" policies, according to Malcolm Wicks, director of the Family Policy Studies Centre.

"Although it may seem odd in Britain, population size in much of Europe represents a national virility symbol. There is much nervousness about declining birth rates, not least given population increases elsewhere in the world," Mr Wicks said yesterday. "Elderly male politicians urging young European women to have more babies than they wish to is not a sound basis for sensitive family policies."

The declining birth rate is partly because female employment is increasing and women are postponing childbearing until their late 20s or early 30s. Their decisions to do so - in effect, putting their jobs or careers first - are helped by effective contraception and the provision of abortion services. Mr Wicks says that controlling the size of the family is a means of improving living standards.

The postponement of childbearing has reached a point in Sweden where fertility among women in their early 30s is higher than among those in their early 20s. Ireland alone among EC member states maintains a birth rate that is above replacement level, but may not do so for much longer, according to the report. From an average of four children per woman in Ireland in 1965, the fertility rate has fallen to 2.1.

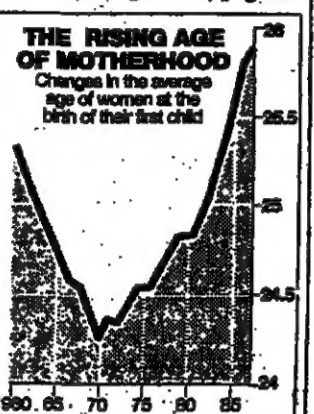
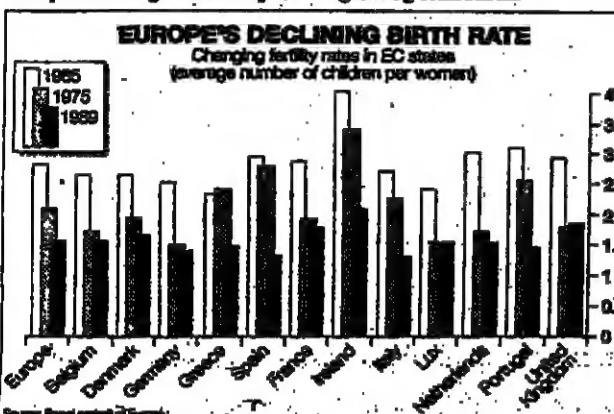
The report includes a "Eurobarometer" survey of 11,700 adults in 12 countries. The poll by a European Commission agency shows that in Britain, the proportion of adults preferring only one child has risen to 10 per cent from 2 per cent ten years ago.

The survey reveals insights into differing national attitudes. People were asked to identify the most important role played by the family in society. Working from a list of possible answers, a majority of French, Italians, Spaniards and Danes said it was to "bring up and educate children". Only one in four Britons agreed with this view. The definition preferred by 41 per cent of the UK interviewees was "providing love and affection".

The Family Policy Studies Centre is an independent research charity that receives funding from the health department.

Family Policy Bulletin (Family Policy Studies Centre, 231 Baker Street, London NW1 6XE; £3)

Leading article, page 15



AGENDA THE WEEK AHEAD

Today Finchley Conservatives announce the candidate to succeed Mrs Thatcher. Marquis of Blandford appears in Beaconsfield charged with driving while disqualified and without insurance.

Tomorrow Derek Hanton, one-time deputy leader of Liverpool council, appears in court with three others charged with conspiracy to defraud ratepayers.

Wednesday Norman Lamont, chancellor, goes to Moscow to continue dialogue begun at the G7 summit.

Thursday Asil Nadir of the Polly Peck group appears at Bow Street accused of theft and false accounting. At the Royal Geographical Society Sir David Attenborough announces a decline in the seal population off the Falklands.

Friday Prince of Wales opens a cricket school at Arundel Castle.

Saturday Dancers assemble on Blackpool's South Promenade in an attempt to break the world record for a conga line.

Sunday National Eisteddfod continues at Mold.

Rogue estate agents risk fines and ban

By JOHN YOUNG

RULES aimed at preventing estate agents from deceiving or misleading clients came into force yesterday. Agents face heavy fines or even a ban from practising if they breach the regulations, which require them to keep customers informed in writing about the progress of house sales and purchases.

They must give written notice of a personal interest in a sale or a purchase, must not discriminate against buyers who refuse "tie-in" services such as a mortgage arranged through the agent, and must



Sir Gordon: "Minority gave trade a bad name"

tell sellers in writing about services offered to buyers.

Other offences include giving misleading information to sellers about potential buyers; failing to pass on all offers promptly and in writing; and failing to make clear in writing in advance the fees that a client will be required to pay. Agents must also give written explanations of jargon such as "sole selling rights".

Those breaching the rules risk fines of up to £2,000 by magistrates, or unlimited fines in the crown court, and being barred from practice.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of fair trading, welcomed his new powers and said: "A significant minority have given the trade a bad name, but even the majority who have always acted scrupulously have often failed to keep customers fully informed. This has led to a widespread, if not always justified, suspicion of estate agents."

The National Association of Estate Agents welcomed the rules as a step towards enhancing the profession's status. Its spokesman, Peter Cliff, said: "The customer will benefit and so will the estate agent."



Bullet proof: Larry Brown-Titchfield, of Hampshire, a member of the Muzzle-Loaders Association of Great Britain, demonstrating yesterday that his Pattern 1860 Marine Short Enfield rifle still has the firing power to impress, as well as to hit the target. Some of the association's 160 members were practising for the annual championship meeting over the August bank holiday weekend at Bilsley, Surrey.

As was the case on the princess's recent 30th birthday, there will be no public show of togetherness. The prince, as is increasingly his custom, will be closeted for the day at Highgrove, while his wife flies to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire to stand in for her mother-in-law at the annual ceremony of the Queen's review of newly-commissioned air force officers.

Whether driven by their public relations advisers or their own instincts, the prince and princess have made considerable efforts in recent days to present a united public front.

During the G7 summit they appeared together at the Queen's spectacular dinner and fireworks display for visiting delegates. Last week they honoured the state visit of President Mubarak of Egypt with two joint appearances at official dinners.

Tomorrow night they will be together again, at a concert in Hyde Park for the prince's appeal for money to plant more trees in the royal parks. The original engagements programme had only the prince's name against that particular function and the princess's name was added on Friday.

Prince Edward joined 4,000 young people at a garden party at Windsor Castle yesterday as part of the 70th birthday celebrations for his father, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Assault courses, fairground rides, a Radio One roadshow and displays were laid on for the youngsters - invited from the Duke of Edinburgh's charities, including the Variety Club of Great Britain and the National Playing Fields Association.

Tenth anniversary, page 10

Palace stays silent on royal anniversary

By ALAN HAMILTON

AS BEFITS the principal landowners of the county of Cornwall, the Prince and Princess of Wales today celebrate their tin wedding, the arbitrary appellation given to those who have survived a decade of marriage.

As was the case on the princess's recent 30th birthday, there will be no public show of togetherness. The prince, as is increasingly his custom, will be closeted for the day at Highgrove, while his wife flies to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire to stand in for her mother-in-law at the annual ceremony of the Queen's review of newly-commissioned air force officers.

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Tenth anniversary, page 10

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DON'T GUESS IT, CHECK IT.



Deaf viewers demand to see rude words they are missing

By DAVID YOUNG

DEAF television viewers in Wales are demanding that offensive language should be included in the subtitles of programmes, so that they can know when to switch off.

The Deaf Broadcasting Council of Wales has asked programme controllers at Welsh-speaking S4C to include swear words on the captions transmitted with their programmes.

Offensive language is frequently left out of S4C's subtitled translations available on the Teletext service, but the DBC of Wales fears that deaf parents will not be able to censor programmes for their children because they are unaware of the content.

BBC and ITV programmes reproduce bad language faithfully in their

subtitles, but the DBC has been told by Welsh speakers that the language often uttered in S4C programmes is sanitised when it comes up on subtitles.

Cedric Moon, the council secretary, said: "We feel it is important that the 280,000 people in Wales who have hearing difficulties are accorded the same rights as the hearing public."

He said that the council would be pressing for a meeting with the chief executive of S4C later this year and hoped that most Welsh MPs would give their support. "Most of us would agree that swearwords have no place on peak-time TV, but if they are there, then we have a right to know," he said.

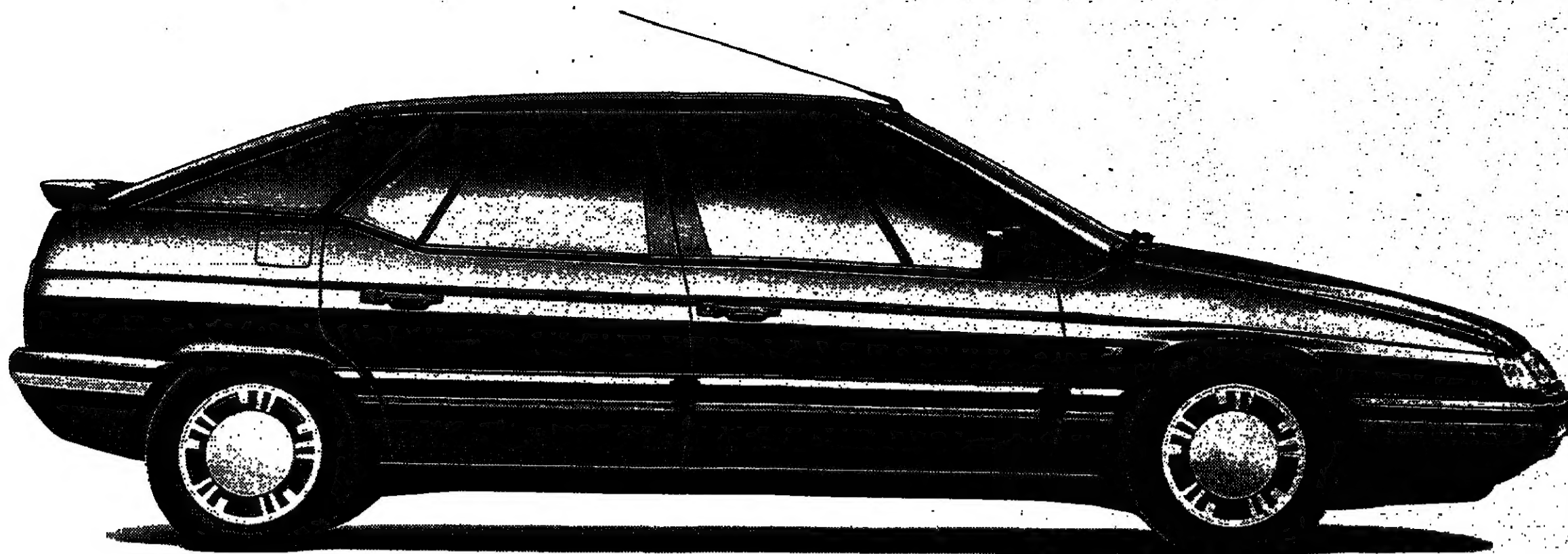
Jonathan Bosman, council

chairman, said: "By refusing to subtitle swear words S4C is encouraging the corruption of family life. Deaf parents are unable to prevent their Welsh-speaking children from listening to Welsh language swear words."

A S4C spokesman said: "Seeing a swear word in print is sometimes less acceptable than listening to its usage in conversation."

"Those who are involved in preparing subtitled translations are acutely aware of this," he said. "We try to have proper regard for the tastes of our audience, in whatever language as individuals they may be watching or listening. To do this, we reserve the right to translate for subtitles in the manner which is consistent with our responsibility."

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Heseltine to push through environment agency plan

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

LEGISLATION to set up the government's proposed new Environment Agency is likely to be introduced in the autumn, barring a general election, a year earlier than had been anticipated. The agency may figure in a Tory election campaign next summer as an accomplishment rather than a manifesto promise.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, who is pushing the scheme forward, is also considering using the institutional reshuffle involved to introduce for the first time a national coastal policy.

Call to save wildfowl estuaries

MORE than 30 types of statutory body look after Britain's coastal zones and the result is a lack of cohesion in planning that is often harmful to conservation, according to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Michael McCarthy writes).

They range from the Crown Estates Commissioners, who own the shoreline below high water mark and the sea bed, through the National Rivers Authority, whose responsibilities include the welfare of salmon and the maintenance of sea walls, to various government departments that regulate fisheries or license oil exploration, and local councils and port authorities.

As they are not working together to any national plan, their priorities often conflict and damaging developments can take place in areas of high nature-conservation importance, Roger Buisson, the RSPB's water policy officer, says. He instances estuaries as the sort of habitat that can be at risk.

"Estuaries are to Britain what the Amazon rainforests are to Brazil, in terms of international wildlife importance," Dr Buisson says.

About a quarter of the wildfowl and waders of Western Europe depend on British estuaries, and we have just the same international responsibility to care for them as tropical countries do for their rainforests. An integrated coastal policy would be a great step forward in doing so."

stoutly supported by conservation groups, which would be a radical step forward in environment protection.

Mr Heseltine has changed his mind about the timetable for the agency, legislation for which was thought to be unlikely until the next Parliament. He has set a team to work on drafting the bill that would be required, and is seeking time to introduce it in the autumn session.

As the agency idea has the personal backing of John Major, who unveiled the plan in his first environmental speech on July 8, and of Chris Patten, the Conservative party chairman, it is probable that Mr Heseltine's wish will be granted and the bill included in the Queen's speech.

An announcement will be made soon, perhaps this week, on the agency's shape. It is likely to be a purely regulatory body monitoring discharges to air, water and land, a "pollution police force" more than 2,000 strong, that will mean splitting up the National Rivers Authority. Such a move will be greeted with concern both by NRA staff and by environmentalists, who feel the authority has done a very successful job as a pollution watchdog in its two years of existence.

The NRA's pollution control responsibilities, which occupy about 1,800 of its 7,500 staff, will be moved off and merged with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution, which monitors industry, to form the agency. Fears have been expressed recently that the remaining functions of the NRA would be absorbed by John Gummer's agriculture ministry.

However, it is likely that the rest of the NRA, with its wide-spread duties for water resource management, fisheries, land drainage and flood defence, will continue alongside the agency, and its role may be enhanced by being given responsibility for a national coastal policy. No firm decision has yet been taken on this move but it is under active consideration by Mr Heseltine.

At present there is no integrated management of Britain's coastal zones, rather a confusing pattern of overlapping responsibilities by various government departments, statutory bodies and agencies.

Clarke considers a charter award for the best schools

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

AN AWARD for schools is being considered by Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary. The Charter Mark would be part of the government's citizen's charter.

Examination results, truancy, local and national school inspections and contact with parents are all likely to figure in the award. Details, such as whether schools would have to apply for the award every year and the exact criteria they would have to meet, still have to be decided.

Schools would be able to use the Charter Mark on advertisements, letter headings and documents. Mr Clarke, who is anxious that the mark should have prestige and not be too easily obtained, is expected to take a final decision in the autumn.

He will announce some details of the education aspects of the citizen's charter when he addresses the conference of the Professional Association of Teachers in Liverpool tomorrow. He is also expected to tell the conference of his plans to streamline national curriculum testing, which may result in paper and pencil tests to be set by whole classes on the same day.

Final details of the parents' charter will be announced in the autumn together with proposals for reforming Her Majesty's Inspectors of schools (HMI). The membership of the new inspectorate will be widened to include representatives of business and the community so that schools can be judged on economic efficiency and service to parents as well as on educational matters.

Ministers are believed to favour hiring off the HMI from the education department so that it can be seen to be a truly independent agency and more readily to the individual needs of schools and colleges.

Peter Smith, general secretary of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association,

said yesterday that performance-related pay awards linked with the citizen's charter could be "a con-trick."

"This is not a case of mindless opposition to performance-related pay, but we will resist any attempt by school governors who come up with crude, unfair carrot-dangling exercises that fail to provide not only the cash, but better management and extra resources for schools to do the job."

Mr Smith said that performance-related pay awards made sense only if the basic pay rates for the profession

were at the right level. "If an inadequate pay award comes forward in 1992 teachers will see it as a con-trick," he said.

A bilingual education policy insisting that some children are taught most lessons in Welsh is not illegal, David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, said at the weekend.

The dispute began two years ago when Dyfed county council decided that its 315 primary schools should be listed according to the main language of instruction.

Education, pages 12-13

Girl to make it four generations at Rugby

By OUR EDUCATION EDITOR

ALICE Littleboy will become the fourth generation of her family to attend Rugby School, founded in 1567, the home of rugby football, Thomas Arnold, Tom Brown and Flashman.

Alice, aged 16 months, is due to enter the school in 2003 after Rugby's decision to go fully co-educational by September 1993.

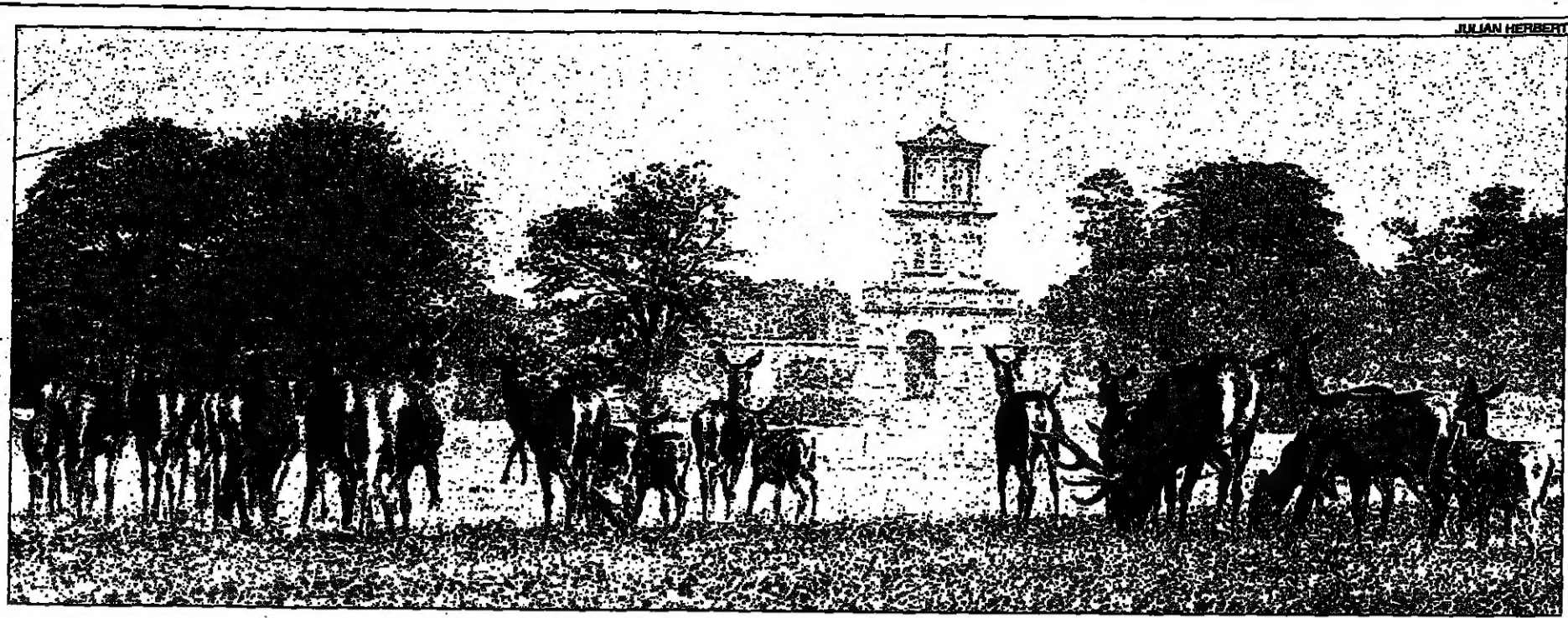
The first Littleboy to enter Rugby was Alice's great-grandfather, the late Colonel Charles Littleboy, who was in School House from 1908-13. His son Charles, now a farmer in Yorkshire, and grandson Peregrine, a London banker, followed into the same house from 1941-6 and from 1974-9 respectively.

Colonel Littleboy's younger brother Wilfred left Rugby two terms early in 1914 so that he could join the army. Lieutenant Littleboy went to France in July 1917 and was killed in an attack on Polderhoek

Chateau on October 9, 1917, aged 21. Shortly after Wilfred's death, his father Charles, a shipbuilder from Saltburn-by-the-sea, Cleveland, and his mother Agnes, founded the Wilfred Evelyn Littleboy Memorial which carries an endowment of £150 a year to defray school fees for up to three candidates.

The £9,000-a-year school has 84 girls in the sixth form out of 688 pupils aged from 12 to 18 years old. The junior department will take day girls at 12-plus from September next year. By 1993, there will be four girls' houses and one for day girls with 250 girls in a school of 750 in 1993.

Peregrine Littleboy said: "With my grandfather, great uncle, my father and his brother, and me and my brother all having gone there, I had no doubts about putting Alice down for Rugby. I think full co-education is a good idea."



Re-creation centre: deer can again be seen at Gunton Hall Park, Norfolk, which ten years ago was a ploughed wasteland, its majestic house in a state of dereliction

Clean sweep brings Norfolk estate back from the dead

THE Queen Mother arrives in Norfolk today to celebrate the re-creation of the deer park at Gunton Hall, which ten years ago had lost most of its trees to fellers and had much of its 800 acres under the plough.

Since then, thanks to the energies of Kit Martin, an architect-entrepreneur, the derelict house of the Harbord family has been restored and nearly half the park returned to pasture.

Today sees the formal inauguration of a 140-acre deer park in Gunton's East Park, laid out in the 1820s by William Sawrey Gilpin,

apostle of the picturesque movement in Britain. Falow deer have been brought from Petworth Park, West Sussex, and red deer from Melbury Court, Dorset, and Wymondham Park.

The scheme is a joint venture between Mr Martin and his wife, Charles Harbord-Hammond and Ivor Braka, an art dealer, who lives in the 90ft Regency observation tower overlooking the estate. Mr Braka has replanted the deer park with mature trees from surrounding woodland.

Mr Braka said: "I fell in love with the tower one day

With dedication and the right help, a decaying landscape park, like a great country house, can live again.
Marcus Binney reports

while out running in the park, little realising I'd have the opportunity to acquire it. But the ploughed field all around robbed it of much of its romance." He now has plans to extend the deer park next year by a further 300 acres.

Mr Martin said: "The best part is that we have been able to involve all the major

conservation agencies in the re-making of the park. It is English Heritage's largest landscape restoration scheme since the 1987 storms."

The deer park has been put back to grass with the help of a Countryside Commission set-aside scheme. It has also helped to dredge ponds which are now

stocked with crayfish. The Nature Conservancy Council has designated the area a site of special scientific interest to protect the largest post-breeding flock of gadwall duck on Gunton's Great Water, where the course fishing is said to be excellent.

All the roofless buildings in the park have been restored. Gunton Hall and its large service wing, described in 1838 as "the finest in the kingdom", have been refurbished as houses and cottages for more than 20 families.

The decaying Robert Adam park chapel has been

taken into care by the Redundant Churches Fund.

The abandoned saw mill has been restored to working order by the Norfolk Windmill Trust and is claimed as the only working water-driven mill in Britain. English Heritage grants have also enabled the restoration of the early 18th-century wilderness garden laid out by Charles Bridgman.

"We have set out to demonstrate that great landscape parks, like great country houses, no matter how decayed, can be restored and given a new lease of life," Mr Martin said.

Water users warned as supply fails test

By JULIAN ROLLS

THOUSANDS of people in Oxfordshire were warned yesterday to boil water used for drinking or cooking after harmful bacteria were found in a Thames Water distribution system. The alert was issued in an area to the east of Oxford, covering Headington, New Headington, Barton, Risinghurst and Sandhills.

Last weekend, 500,000 people to the west and north-west of London served by Thames Valley Water Company had to boil water after a chlorination process failed.

Yesterday, Tom Curtin, a Thames Water spokesman, said: "We have found minute traces of bacteria in some parts of the supply, and we have issued the warning as a precaution."

The bacterium, *Escherichia coli*, can cause stomach upsets. The contamination was found during routine testing at 10pm on Saturday. Delivery of leaflets warning customers began within half an hour, and everyone in the area had received one by early yesterday morning, Mr Curtin said.

The Farnborough waterworks, which supplies the affected area, has been given a clean bill of health. An investigation has begun to find out how the bacteria entered the system.

National Rivers Authority scientists are trying to isolate a toxin that killed almost 4,000 fish in four miles of the Paxton Dene Burn, which feeds into the salmon-laden Coquet at Longhorsely, Northumberland. They have found traces of a herbicide, but it is not known whether it is to blame.

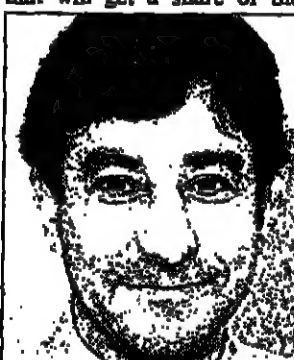
£5,000 grant for theatre 'ludicrous'

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE National Youth Theatre's award of £5,000 from the Arts Council's youth fund, which is expected to be approved by the council's senior management today, was described last night by the theatre's director as ludicrous.

Edward Wilson said that he had been led to believe by Lord Palumbo, the council's chairman, that the company would receive £25,000.

The NYT is expected to be one of 11 youth companies that will get a share of the



Wilson: "We need every penny we can get" £75,000 fund, the largest grant believed to be for £10,000.

Mr Wilson said: "If it is true that we will get only £5,000, I am tempted to pour it on the Arts Council's front door step in pennies, but the truth is we need every penny we can get."

"It is ludicrous that the national youth company gets so little national support. The Scottish Youth Theatre, for instance, gets £17,000 from the Scottish Art Council while we, the youth theatre of Great Britain, get nothing at all last year and only £3,000 the year before."

He said that he and Bryan

Four killed in two weekend car crashes

Three men died when their BMW car overturned on a bend on the A337 at Lymington, Hampshire, on Saturday. Police named the driver as Andrew Little, aged 28, of Lymington.

Andrew Labram, aged 18, of Meriden, near Coventry, died when he lost control of a Jaguar sports car and crashed into a row of trees at Berkswell, Warwickshire. A passenger, Murray Dowie, also 18, of Binley, Coventry, is critically ill in hospital.

Hostage ordeal

A gunman aged 24 surrendered to police after holding seven children aged 12 to 16 hostage for several hours at a farmhouse in Norton village, Worcestershire.

Deer protected

Paul McCartney the former Beatle confirmed that he has bought 80 acres of prime staghunting land on Exmoor to protect deer in response to a plea from the League Against Cruel Sports.

Wedding death

A boy aged 16 died when fighting broke out between wedding guests and youths who tried to gatecrash a reception at the Crosland Moor Liberal Club, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.

Tribute to poet

A hundred Wordsworth scholars and poetry lovers from all over the world joined celebrations to mark the centenary of the opening to the public of Dove Cottage, the poet's home in Grasmere, Cumbria.

Charter pledge

Basingstoke council, Hampshire, became the first local authority to act on the government's citizen's charter when it announced that all departments would face external audit to ensure high standards.

Tourist missing

Mountain rescue teams and an RAF helicopter were searching last night for a German tourist last seen on Wednesday walking from Drumadrochit to Fort Augustus, Inverness.

Smoking ban

Health chiefs in Birmingham have banned teachers from smoking in the city's 470 schools except in special rooms for smokers.

Police break-in

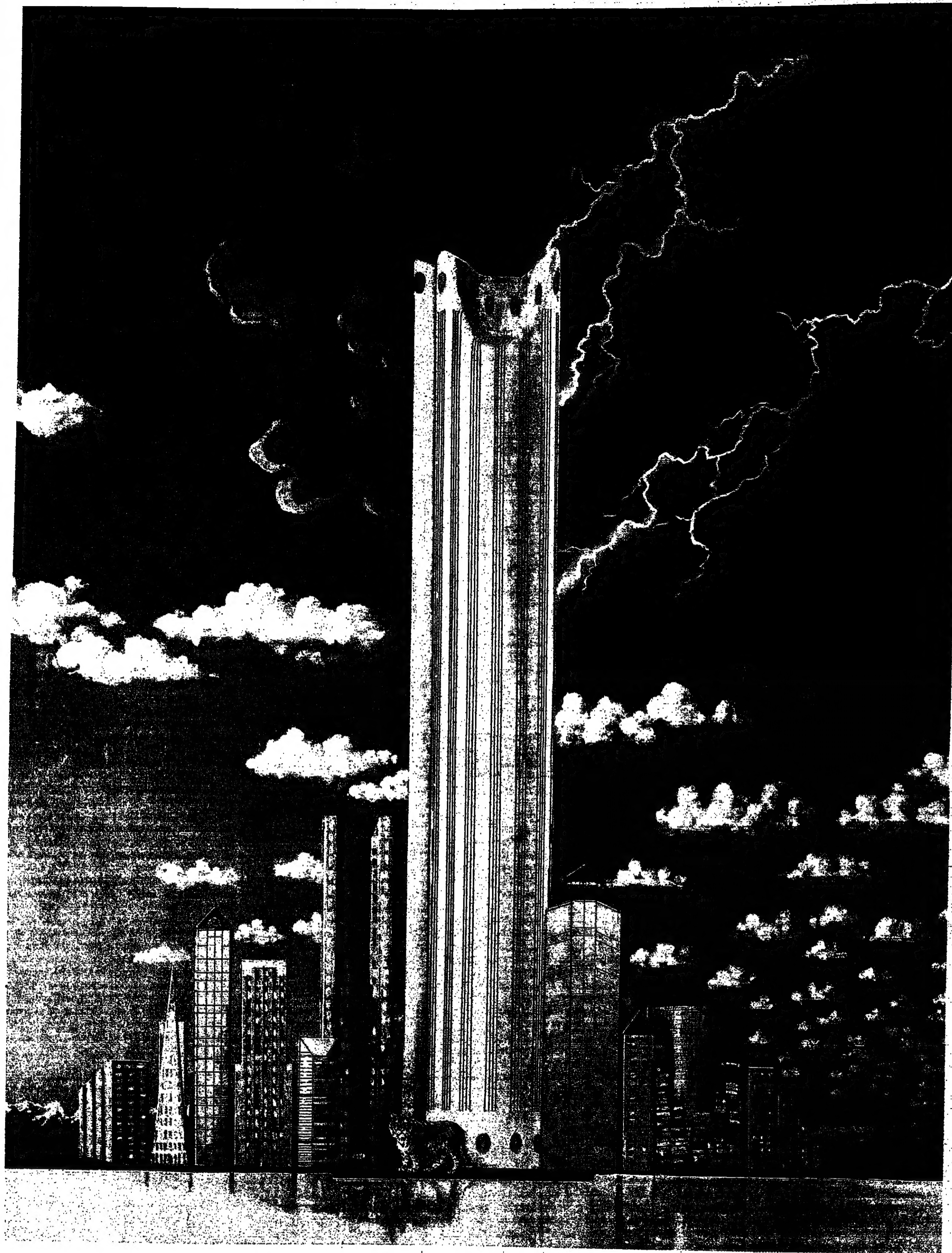
Police were questioning a man with cut hands who was found attempting to break into the police station at Crowborough, East Sussex.

Bond winners

The winners in the weekly Premium Bonds prize draw are: £100,000, 18YK 810703 (winner lives in West Midlands, holding £725); £50,000, 15B2 768520 (Southampton, £7,009); £25,000, 4HP 798285 (Middlesex, £83).



Rugby material: Alice with her father Peregrine and grandfather Graham



THE MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS ARE NOW CONSTRUCTED OF PAPER.

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APV 101 50

Legal land battles in the green belt take a leaf out of Dallas

THE locals in the Buckinghamshire village of Stokenchurch have nicknamed it Southfork, after the Texan ranch in the American soap opera *Dallas*. The owner of the building claims it is a mobile home, in spite of being built on bricks, and he has warned that if it is made to tear it down, the 17 acres it is on will be split into caravan plots and sold to Irish gypsies.

Dallas may seem a long way from Stokenchurch but Texans on a fait with squabbles over oil rights would no doubt appreciate the land disputes that have erupted in the Buckinghamshire countryside. They would be impressed with the dramatic personae of this particular English rural drama — a baroness, a large family of sometime gypsies and a local wheeler-dealer who stores damaged cars for an insurance firm, with a walk-on part for the agents of one of the world's most wealthy men, Paul Getty.

In the disputes in Stokenchurch over land use and the exact position of boundaries, fists have been thrown, a wood has been cut down, dead calves have been dumped in mysterious circumstances and the laws that protect the green belt and govern planning have been flouted and shown to be ineffectual.

Southfork, or Lower Stud-

Jamie Dettmer reports on a thick-skinned "mafia" who are flouting building laws in a pleasant corner of English countryside

dridge Farm as its owner. Mitchell Curtis calls it, is one of six sites in and around Stokenchurch that are being used illegally for commercial or residential purposes. The area's problems are compounded possibly by its history as a stop-over point for gypsies and Welsh drovers at the turn of the century.

The current disputes started in the Fifties when the Curtis family, which had arrived in the village from London a decade earlier, started to buy and develop small plots of land. As they prospered two other families followed their example in defying planning regulations and started businesses on green-belt land.

Wendy Brown, a local Conservative councillor, said: "When I became a member of Wycombe district council in 1983 I was told by colleagues that I had the biggest case-load of land disputes in the county. With delaying tactics, the offenders can get away with putting buildings up without permission for up to eight years.

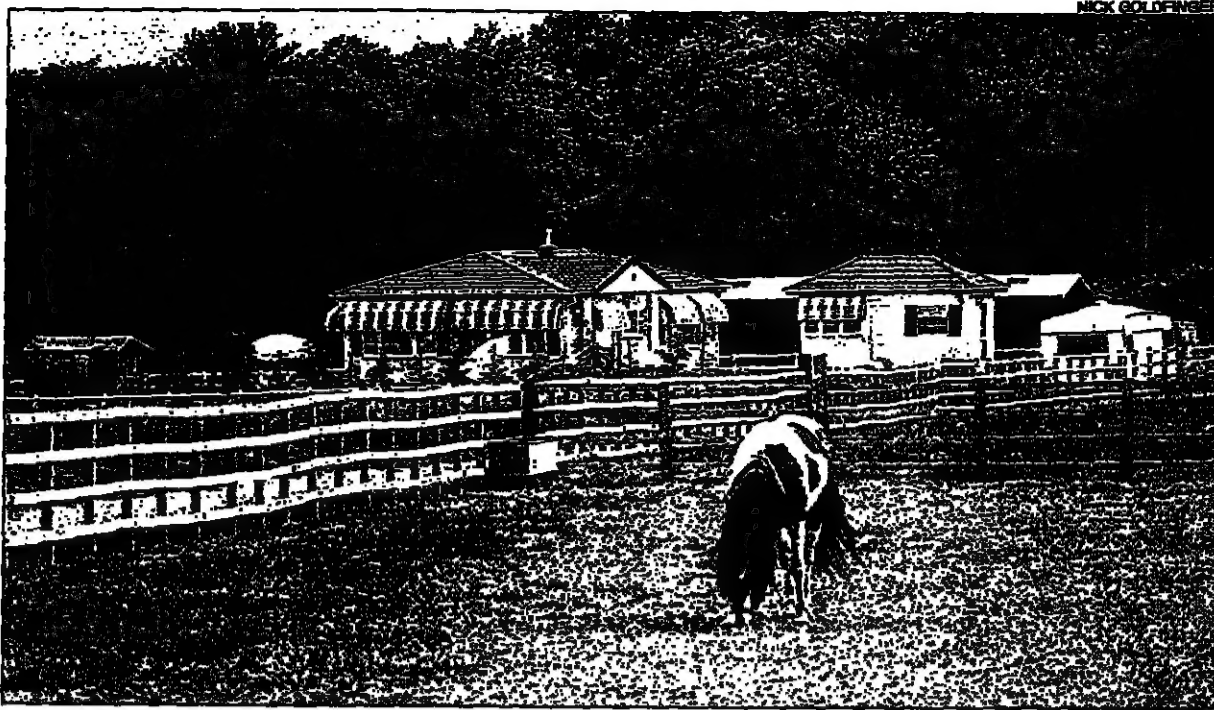
They are not worried. They are making a lot of money."

Since the Fifties the county council and Wycombe district council have served dozens of enforcement notices on the Curtis family and pursued them on several occasions in the High Court. A number of public enquiries have been heard concerning Curtis sites; hundreds of thousands of pounds have been spent by the councils in legal proceedings. But the Curtis pay the occasional fine of up to £2,000 and just carry on.

Round Cope, one site owned by the Curtis family, has had six enforcement notices served on it since 1954. The county council served two on Jack Curtis, Mitchell's father, to stop the dumping and storing of scrap metal and the parking of trailers and cars. The district council has served four to try to prevent the storage of wooden pallets and vehicles and the selling of goods, including cars and Christmas trees.

The Curtis also breached a covenant they signed when buying the land and ignored a tree-preservation order by cutting down three acres of wood on Round Cope.

Tim Cassel, QC, who with his wife, Baroness Mallalieu, owns the land bordering Southfork, said: "We have a thick-skinned mafia here



Down on the ranch: Lower Studridge Farm, also known as Southfork, which is at the heart of land disputes

who are able to abuse the planning laws."

The 17 acres neighbouring their property and Paul Getty's Wormsley estate were bought by Mitchell Curtis in 1989 and within 18 months two barns and a couple of roads were built and the so-called mobile home was put up. Only one of the barns is within planning regulations. At night

Southfork is floodlit and the property is protected by a large German sheepdog called Rambo.

There is no sense that the so-called mobile home is there for a brief period. The kitchen is full of the latest gadgets, there are thick carpets in the lounge as well as an expensive three-piece suite.

Mr Curtis, a short, thick-

set man, has greeted attempts to discuss the development with "a combination of claims of ignorance and inability to read on the one hand and threats and actual violence on the other", according to Mr Cassel.

Southfork's owner recently received an enforcement notice and is appealing. He claims he is using the

land for agricultural purposes but from the outset he made it known that he intended to live on the site and apart from a brief period of rearing calves, most of which ended up dead and unburied nearby, no farming activity has taken place at Southfork.

"This is not a farming enterprise at all but an attempt to flout the planning

laws," Mr Cassel says. "The tragedy is that this amounts to vandalism of this little bit of exceptionally beautiful countryside."

The Cassels are unusual in being prepared to speak out. Others in Stokenchurch are far more reticent. That is particularly evident with those living near the Greenfield Storage site, a car-storage business run by Eric Hunt, known locally as Spook. Lorries use what could be a quiet country lane to deliver damaged cars to his storage site. Mr Hunt also has a mobile home on the site.

Mr Hunt, who drives a Mercedes sports car, said the planning laws discriminated against businessmen. "Only some people complain," he said.

Mr Hunt has been to magistrates' court three times for failing to observe an enforcement notice. Last January he was fined £2,000, a small sum compared with the £600 or more he makes per day for storing cars.

Wycombe district council is bracing for another round of attempts to close Southfork, Greenfield, Round Cope, and another development known as Drybanks, which is used by the National Box Company and Site Unit Rentals.

Mitchell Curtis was unavailable last week to comment on the disputes.

Computers arrive at crown courts to speed justice

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE criminal justice system in England and Wales has taken the first step towards the computer age with the launching of a £10 million programme for the 75 crown courts around the country.

The programme, which has just been launched at Guildford crown court, is the first stage towards an electronic data exchange in which the crown courts will link up with the Crown Prosecution Service, police and other agencies.

Over the next two years the world of pens and paper will

give way in the crown courts to screens and keyboards, which will eventually enable barristers sitting in chambers, the police or prosecuting authorities to key in direct to the courthouse.

Pamela Waugh, project manager, said: "The Guildford system is a building block within the Lord Chancellor's department towards computerised crown courts nationwide. This in turn is one element in what will eventually be a computerised criminal justice system."

All the court card indexes and paper work at Guildford, which used to store details of about 1,000 criminal trials a year, 200 commitments for sentence and 230 appeals, have been jettisoned. Although the terminals are only in the court offices, some may be placed in the courtroom for use by clerks.

Ms Waugh said the system would generally speed things up. "Cases will take less time to process, which will mean more being put through with the same number of people." The system would also bring about nationwide standards and consistency and give more accurate information.

The system, known as Crest (Crown Court Electronic Support) has taken five years to develop. At a time of a burgeoning workload it will help crown courts to list cases, determine legal aid costs, keep accounts and generate management information. Cases will be more easily monitored and delays should be reduced.

The Guildford system, whose introduction has been "very smooth", is now being evaluated. From October the programme will "roll out" nationwide, taking four court centres at a time.

The programme will be introduced in the Midlands and Oxford and western circuits, followed by Wales and Chester and northern circuits, then the southeastern circuit and finally the northeastern circuit. All courts will be covered by mid-1993.

Computers already exist in magistrates' courts where they have helped with accounting and the handling of large amounts of cash.

Clerks attack plan to limit spending

GOVERNMENT plans to limit spending on magistrates' courts have been attacked as a threat to justice by the justices' clerks, who act as the courts' chief administrators and legal advisers (Frances Gibb writes).

In some court areas budgets could be cut by as much as 25 per cent in the first five years of the limits, according to the Justices' Clerks' Society. Other likely effects are said to include the closure of court-houses in some areas, staff redundancies, cases being dealt with at a slower rate, and some kinds of work being given lower priority, leading to delays in hearings.

The criminal justice bill now before Parliament proposes that the level of government grant to magistrates' courts should be limited from April 1 next year. The Home Office proposes that the level of the grant be determined by a formula based on the amount of work completed by the court and the rate at which cases are dealt with and fines collected.

The society, which has issued a rare press statement to publicise its views, said: "By tying the income available to a court to judicial decision making, justice in individual cases may be adversely affected by courts having undue regard to the financial consequences of their decisions."

Beatle's breakfast toast from 1963 goes on sale

By JOHN SHAW

A TWIG from the hedge of John Lennon's garden and a piece of toast from George Harrison's breakfast on August 2, 1963, are among Beatle's ephemera from the early Sixties to be auctioned at Christie's in London next month.

The collection was formed by Susan Houghton, a teenager on Merseyside who became a fan of the group when it was still a local phenomenon, and continued during the early years of "Beatlemania". Louise Harrison, described George's mother, described Susan as his "No 1 fan".

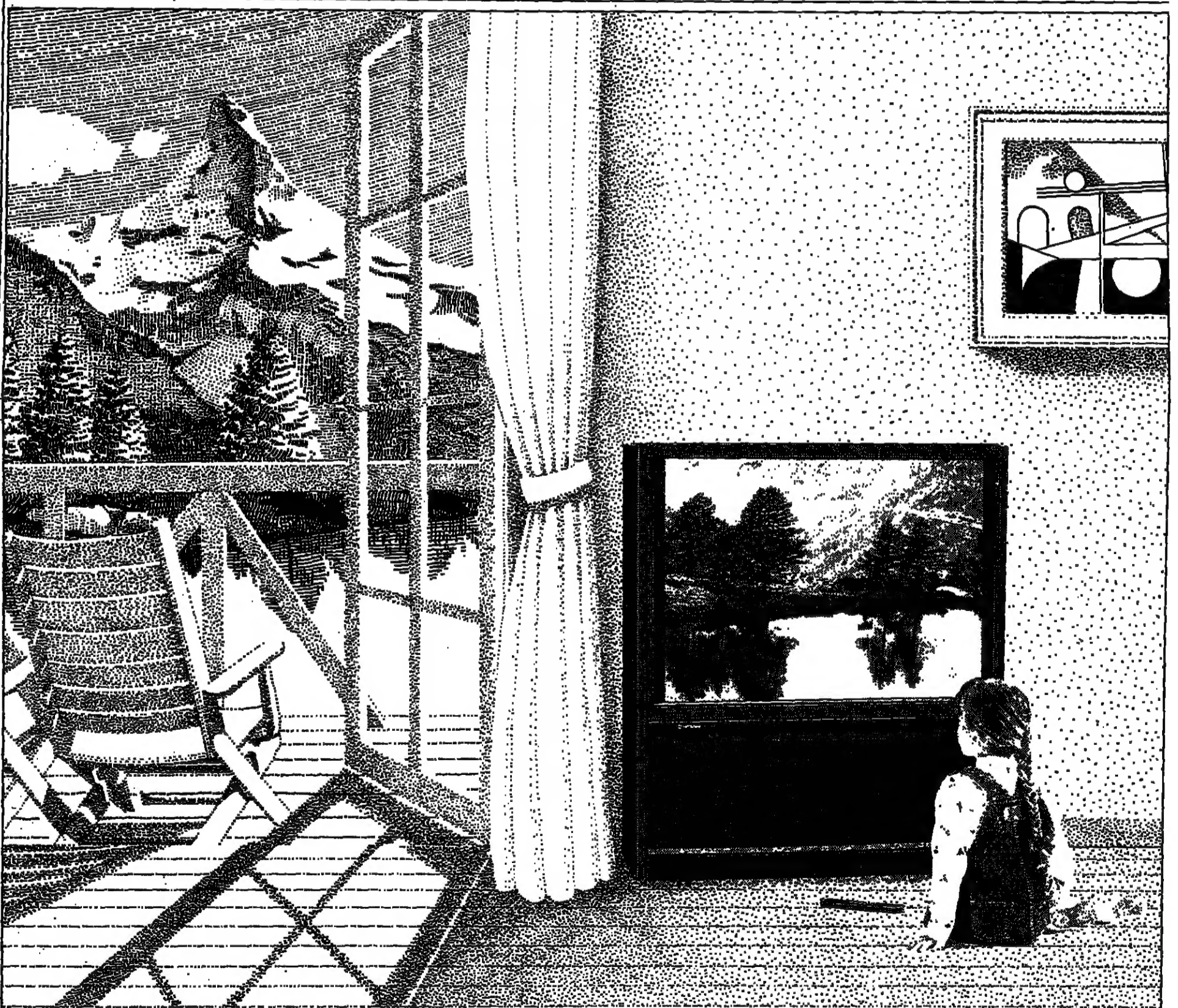
She wrote asking to clean his car and he sent back a jokey letter with instructions, telling her to take the dirty

water round to Paul McCartney's house when the job was done and pour it over his car.

She filled nine scrapbooks with records, photographs and autographs. The collection is estimated to make up to £1,200 at the August 29 sale.

Christie's will also be auctioning items belonging to Cynthia Lennon, John Lennon's first wife. They include a Christmas card and an eight-page love letter he sent her when they were both art students in Liverpool in 1958.

Drawings, including alternative versions of illustrations for his first two books, *In His Own Write* and *A Spaniard in The Works*, are estimated at £1,500 to £3,000 each.



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De Klerk likely to offer ANC posts in transition cabinet

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT de Klerk intends to halt covert political funding, and exert stricter control over all other secret projects, in an attempt to end the furor over the clandestine state financial support for the Inkatha Freedom Party.

The government is also planning to offer members of the African National Congress and other opposition parties executive positions in the administration to facilitate negotiations on a new constitution. Mr de Klerk is due to make a full statement tomorrow after conferring with the national security council today. Government sources say he will defend the payments to Inkatha as being in the national interest at the time, and will not dismiss ministers implicated in the scandal.

However, he is expected to

disclose details of past covert funding, announce an immediate end to such support for conservative organisations, and increase the powers of the auditor-general to scrutinise remaining slush funds. "We feel that in the funding of Inkatha, all the legal obligations were honoured and from that point of view was defensible in the perspective of the time. So we feel we can sweat that one out," a source said. "But at the same time it is indicative of a bigger problem, the need to bring the spending of secret funds under stricter control."

Government perceived a need to "get a bit of distance" between ministers controlling secret funds and decisions on how the cash was spent. It was considering mechanisms to ensure it received "some fairly

objective advice as to what constitutes an acceptable project". Of more long-term import, Pretoria is considering detailed proposals to meet the demands of the ANC and other opposition groups for a multiparty government to supervise the reform process. Government spokesmen still reject the term interim government, preferring to talk of "transitional arrangements".

The first step would be to seek agreement at an all-party conference on the joint supervision of the security forces, leading to the appointment of opposition leaders in the public service. As constitutional negotiations progressed, the ANC and other groups would be drafted into government at executive level.

Two ministers yesterday defied calls for their resignations over the affair. "I never regard myself as bigger than the future of this country..." Adrian Vlok, the minister of law and order, said. "(But) as far as the present problems are concerned I would say, looking at it objectively, I don't think I should resign." General Magnus Malan, the defence minister, said: "I am not going to yield to demands by radicals to resign."

Carl Niehaus, an ANC spokesman, reiterated at the weekend that the "Inkathagate" scandal had demonstrated the need for a multiparty interim administration. "The government has demonstrated it cannot be trusted to create a fair and open political climate. It had its chance, but now we demand that it dissolve to create an interim government capable of ensuring fair play."

Despite the scandal, a multiparty peace initiative is making progress. Representatives of the main parties met last week and are understood to be close to agreement on codes of conduct for political parties and the security forces.



Money spinner: Chip Miller, of Salt Lake City, Utah, somersaulting with his bicycle to a safe splashdown in a training pool at Lake Placid, New York state, in an exhibition of jumps and tricks to raise funds for the American freestyle skiing team

Whiff of hope for tobacco puffs

FROM JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

THE Canadian government's all-out attack against smoking has received a setback with a judge's ruling that a law banning cigarette advertising is unconstitutional.

In the wake of Friday's ruling by Mr Justice Jean-Judé Chabot in the Quebec superior court in Montreal, tobacco manufacturers said that they would immediately start making plans to resume advertising. They could be leaving themselves open to court restraining injunctions, however, since Judge Chabot specified that the present law remains in effect until all appeals are exhausted. The socially controversial case is almost certain to wind up in the Canadian supreme court.

In his ruling, Judge Chabot found that the federal statute, one of the strongest anti-smoking laws in the Western world, violated the right to freedom of expression guaranteed by the Canadian charter of rights and freedoms. He also denounced "such one-sided attempts to restrict society" as being contrary to democratic principles. "This kind of single-minded social engineering is contrary to the democratic values of Canadian society," he said.

The stinging judgment further found that the federal law infringes on Canadian provinces' constitutional powers to regulate advertising. Passed by parliament in 1988, the statute prohibits tobacco companies from advertising in newspapers and magazines, on radio, television or hoardings. A deadline of January 1993 was set for eliminating in-store advertising.

Since the law came into effect, Canadians' cigarette consumption has fallen by an estimated 25 per cent. However, the extent to which the advertising ban is responsible for the drop is unclear, since taxes on tobacco have risen sharply in the same period.

Ershad lawyers quit after threats

Dhaka - Lawyers defending the deposed Bangladesh president, Hussain Muhammad Ershad, resigned en masse yesterday, creating a fresh hurdle in the trial of the former ruler on charges of corruption and amassing illegal wealth (Ahmed Fazi writes).

Serajul Haq, the chief defence lawyer, said his team of 11 lawyers was resigning, alleging a lack of security and threats to their lives. He told the special tribunal judge, Muhammad Ali Khan, that he and his colleagues were being threatened by unidentified telephone callers and heckled publicly by opponents of the former president, who was ousted last December amid violent street protests.

Judge Khan said the resignation of the lawyers would stall the trial. He postponed the hearing until July 30. The legal team withdrew from the case after police arrested a lawyer on a charge of smuggling out letters allegedly written by Ershad from his cell in Dhaka central prison to his political allies.

Ershad, aged 61, seized power in a bloodless military coup in March 1982 and later was elected as a civilian ruler. He was convicted in June of keeping unlicensed guns, and sentenced to ten years' jail.

Spill hits land

Neah Bay, Washington - Oil began washing up on the Washington coast from the Japanese ship that sank last Monday in the Pacific. Thousands of birds and sea mammals in the Olympic national park are endangered. (AP)

Laundry death

Peking - A maid unintentionally drowned a couple's one-year-old son in Xinjiang trying to wash him in a washing machine, the People's Public Security News said. The mother taught the maid how to do the laundry. "After finishing the washing, don't forget to bath the baby," the father was quoted as saying. (AFP)

Fruit spies

Wellington - Foreign agents are stealing samples of new apple trees being developed by New Zealand, according to the Dominion Sunday Times. It quoted industry sources as saying that Chilean and South African spies had taken cuttings of a variety under trial, and French interests have also got patented samples. (AFP)

Pee-wee charge

Sarasota, Florida - Paul Rubens, who plays the eccentric Pee-wee Herman on the Emmy-award-winning television show for children, was arrested for allegedly exposing himself in a cinema showing adult films. He was charged with a misdemeanor and released from a county jail on bail of \$219 (£130). (AP)

Hippo patricide

Delhi - Two young hippopotamuses bantered their father to death in a zoo in northern India in what officials said was an awesome battle for male supremacy. The Chaudhary Tribune said. The three used their teeth and bodies like battering rams until the death of Bholu from internal injuries. (AFP)

Dissident threatens to fast

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

WANG Juntao, the Chinese dissident imprisoned for 13 years for allegedly masterminding the 1989 pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square, is threatening a hunger strike in protest against jail conditions.

The former editor, aged 33, has been held in a solitary confinement punishment cell at Peking's No.2 prison since April despite his worsening medical condition, according to his wife, Hong Xiaojian. She says he is being held in a cell less than 138 square, dimly lit and infested by insects but furnished with a bed, lavatory and table. "His cell is very damp. You can't breathe, the air can't circulate, and it is foul smelling," she said yesterday. Prison regulations say that inmates should be kept in such conditions for no more than 15 days, she said.

Wang's parents have been told that his hepatitis B is becoming more acute. His wife fears that if he goes ahead with a hunger strike he may die because of his weakened condition.

Zheng Xuguang, a leading student activist, and two other dissidents jailed for their involvement in the 1989 pro-democracy protests have been released after serving their two-year terms.

An Australian delegation, which has just completed a 13-day tour investigating human rights in China, has painted a grim picture of what it found in Peking, Chengdu, Shanghai and Lhasa. It said that of 16,000 criminal cases filed in Shanghai last year, only 30 defendants were acquitted, and almost half were not given a defence lawyer.

The human rights monitoring organisation, Asia Watch, in a report at the weekend on political repression in inner Mongolia, detailed the arrests and house arrests in mid-May of alleged activists of two groups aiming to strengthen Mongolian cultural heritage.

Sri Lanka poised for key battle

FROM VUTHA YAPA IN COLOMBO

ABOUT 7,000 Sri Lankan soldiers, supported by the air force and navy, are poised for a strategic battle against Tamil rebels at Elephant Pass in the north of the island.

Major-General Denzil Kobekaduwa, the commander of Operation Balavegaya, was quoted in the Sri Lankan Sunday Times yesterday as saying the leader of the Tamil Tiger guerrillas, Prabhakaran, called it the mother of all battles. He added: "History will decide if it is the turning point of the Eelam [a state the rebels want to set up] war. It could be the beginning of the end of the separatist struggle."

Yesterday, the government reimposed an indefinite curfew in northern Sri Lanka, officials of the joint operations command said. The curfew encompasses the districts of Jaffna, Mullaitivu and Killinochchi, which are the key regions surrounding the Elephant Pass army camp. The territory was under a 16-day curfew until Thursday, when it was lifted because of severe food shortages, officials said.

Over the past 17 days, during which the camp has been under siege, the fighting has been tough, with the army losing more than 125 soldiers and the Tamil rebels losing more than 800, according to the retired air chief marshal Walter Fernando, the defence secretary.

Elephant Pass is the tenuous link between the north and the south, straddling the causeway to the rebel-held Jaffna peninsula. Rival Tamil groups say that the battle is a key test for the Tigers.

The camp is cut off by land and so food and ammunition have been dropped by the air force.

Vice-Admiral Ananda Silva, the navy commander, said the rebels may be using radar to monitor navy vessels to help the rebels slip past gunships patrolling the strait between India and Sri Lanka.

Women-only bank to be launched in Bombay

FROM COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

FOR the first time in India an all-woman co-operative bank is to be started from the commercial capital of Bombay on August 15, India's independence day. The bank will be run exclusively for women by women.

Saroj Bhosale Naik, who is behind the Priyadarshini women's co-operative bank venture, says that an application for permission to set up the bank was first made to the Reserve Bank of India in 1980. The license was granted only in 1989 on the condition that one million rupees (£23,250) were raised first as share capital. In keeping with the bank's objectives, all 2,000 shareholders are women.

The Priyadarshini co-operative bank may be the first recognised women's commercial bank, but in the past decade two remarkable women's co-operative banks meant exclusively for lower middle-class and poor working

women, who are denied loans from traditional banks, have been extremely successful in Gujarat, western India, and in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. Impressed by their example, the Indian planning commission has drawn up a project to launch a national women's co-operative bank, which is waiting for clearance from the ministry of human resources development.

Sewa, the self-employed women's association, was started in Gujarat originally as an offshoot of a trade union. It first acted as the liaison agent between the bank and the illiterate women but later set up a bank of its own to help women vegetable vendors and rag pickers, who found it difficult to raise the meagre loan required to buy a pushcart.

Today Sewa has more than 25,000 members and capital of 20 million rupees. The leading light in the concept of

Sewa is a social worker, Ela Bhatt, who is a nominated member of parliament.

Eleven of the bank's 13 board members are rag pickers and vegetable sellers. Women are allowed to put up their jewellery as collateral for loans, which are provided immediately if the shareholder is able to prove that there is a dire necessity in the borrower's family.

In male-dominated Indian society, women seldom are able to keep their earnings. The bank provides a secure place to deposit savings and jewellery away from the reach of husbands who might pawn bracelets and fitter away the money.

In Tamil Nadu, the Working Women's Forum, started by Jaya Arunachal, has been equally successful. The bulk of its 40,000 members are fishermen and several branches throughout the state.

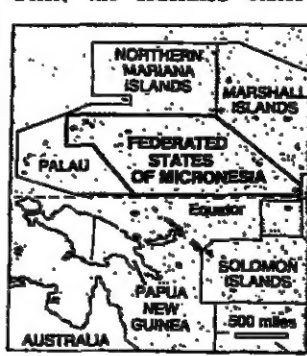
Britain opposes islands' UN plea

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN PALIKER

GARETH Evans, the Australian foreign minister, claimed yesterday that Britain had adopted an excessively legalistic stand in opposing an application by the Federated States of Micronesia for membership of the United Nations. Britain, as a permanent member of the UN security council, can veto the application.

His comments in a press conference followed an appeal earlier yesterday from Bailey Oller, the federated states' president, that his Pacific nation should be accepted as an independent country. The federated states formally applied on Saturday to Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, for membership. Britain is resisting the application, claiming that the former trust territory is not a sovereign, independent nation. The federated states signed a compact of free association with the United States which came into effect in 1986.

Mr Oller, at a press conference to mark his country's hosting of the annual South Pacific forum, said his government had lobbied extensively for membership. "We are asking that those countries who are members of the UN will allow us the same chance of becoming a full member." He said that the compact with America was an international agreement between two independent countries.



Kuwait exports first crude oil since invasion

FROM REUTERS IN MINA AL-AHMADI IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT yesterday shipped two million barrels of crude oil, becoming an exporter for the first time since Iraq's invasion almost a year ago.

The supertanker Thorness left this oil terminal south of Kuwait City at midday en route for western Europe. Hamoud Abdullah al-Raqba, the oil minister, said that other tankers would pick up crude at a rate of one every seven to ten days. "I am very happy to see this day. Our Kuwaiti people and their friends did a tremendous job to achieve this in such a very short time," he said.

The loss of oil exports had deprived Kuwait of its main source of hard-currency earnings, forcing it to seek billions of dollars in foreign borrowing to finance its postwar reconstruction. Oil wells around the terminal are still burning, a poignant reminder of Iraq's invasion. Wrecked cars and shattered buildings also deface the once bustling port.

Mr al-Raqba said that 249 of the 600 wells set alight or left gushing by retreating Iraqi troops had been capped. The emirate is currently producing

115,000 barrels of oil a day. This excludes the estimated daily output of 200,000 barrels from the neutral zone which Kuwait shares with Saudi Arabia. Kuwait was pumping about two million barrels of crude a day before the invasion.

Mr al-Raqba said that the invasion had caused up to \$75 billion (£45 billion) of damage to the oil industry, including lost production. The emirate has been importing refined products, but Mr al-Raqba said that Kuwait's refineries would be able to meet domestic needs by the end of September.

Five American and two Canadian firms have been fighting the fires since March, and up to 16 firefighting teams will be working by the middle of August, officials say. Mr al-Raqba said that most wells would be capped by March, but the cost of putting out the fires could reach \$1 billion.

More than 30 ships have mounted a big mine-clearing operation in the Gulf. Naval officials said earlier that all shipping lanes would be clear by the end of this month.

Refugees look to Allah and the gun

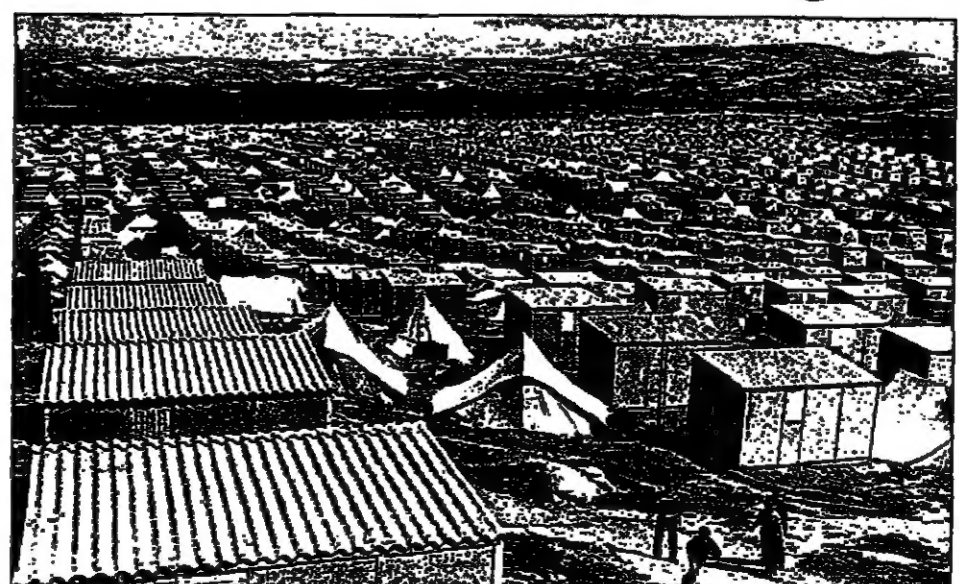
FROM ADAM KELLNER IN BAQIR CAMP, NEAR AMMAN

GOD, not President Bush, is the only ally that the despondent Palestinians of Baqir camp believe will help them to return home.

Pessimism is one of the few things in abundance in Baqir, the home of more than 100,000 refugees, most from the 1967 war with Israel. The Jewish state is only 45 minutes down the road, but nobody thinks they will be going back soon, despite the recent progress in getting key Arab nations to agree to negotiate with Israel on ending their protracted conflict.

There is an almost purposeful sense of neglect in Baqir, as if the residents do not want to put down proper roots. Narrow streets are unpaved and telephone and power lines loop in an unseemly tangle between the humble abodes built of breeze blocks and iron roofs. The central market is filled with basic goods, but the only place for Baqir's numerous unemployed youths to linger is a dusty football field on which grass refuses to grow.

Anger and frustration were boiling over during the Gulf war, when Baqir was the location of numerous impassioned rallies to honour President Saddam Hussein as the man who was going to win back Jerusalem. The senseless desperation that made many believe Baghdad's propaganda



Regimentation of despair: Palestinians in the Baqir camp, set up near Amman after the 1967 war with Israel, are brooding about their chances to return home in the near future

remains, and through some weird conceptual contortions, some people think the Iraqi dictator really won the war because he stood up to the West, albeit at the cost of the destruction of his country.

Under this worldview, there is no point in negotiating with Israel because if the Palestinians just wait a few centuries, Allah will ensure that the Jewish state simply fades away. In the meantime, Palestinians must keep fighting, even though they have

lost their main financial backing from the Gulf Arabs, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation has just been disarmed in southern Lebanon.

"We have a conviction that Israel is not going to give an inch of land unless guns are involved," said Talsun Muhammad, a teacher aged 29. "People are on the brink of despair. The only way is to go back to terrorism."

Political settlements usually involve overriding more extreme sentiments, and Pal-

estinian and Jordanian politicians are confident that the implacable public hostility against Israel can eventually be defused if the government of Yitzhak Shamir agrees to end its occupation of the West Bank.

They are proposing that this area should then become Palestine, but part of a federation with Jordan, because it would not be able to support all of the Palestinians who would flood back into the territory.

Madagascar 'to sack cabinet'

FROM REUTERS IN ANTANANARIVO

THE embattled President Ratsiraka of Madagascar offered concessions to the opposition yesterday, saying that he would dismiss his government today and organise a referendum on a new constitution this year.

Mr Ratsiraka, speaking to the nation for the first time about a seven-week protest campaign which has posed the most serious challenge to his 16-year rule, also invited opposition leaders to study new electoral laws.

"Even if I'm right I will bend," Mr Ratsiraka said in an emotional voice on state radio. "I ask the opposition and all who are working for the country to talk to us so that this threatened country can remain united."

He said a new government would be formed on the Indian Ocean island today, but did not give details about who would take part.

Mr Ratsiraka, aged 54, a navy officer who took power at the head of a military junta in 1975, urged an end to the opposition campaign of strikes and protests. He said that the protest campaign was destroying the economy and threatened to tear the country apart.

The concessions announced

by Mr Ratsiraka met the original demands of the opposition coalition, who launched their campaign on June 10 calling for a new constitution and electoral reforms. But since then, the opposition protests have snowballed into outright demands that Mr Ratsiraka resign.

The president, who declared a state of emergency in the capital, Antananarivo, and clamped a night curfew last Tuesday in a vain effort to curb the unrest, did not suggest he would step down.

Victor Ramakratra, the prime minister, had said earlier yesterday that security forces could fire on protesters if they tried to occupy more government buildings. He said that the forces had been told not to fire on crowds unless they attempted to enter "institutional buildings" or the forces were under threat.

The Active Forces coalition, which earlier this month named a shadow government, broke off peace talks with the government last Friday over the arrests of several of its leading members. It said that it would not resume negotiations until they were released. Six are now detained, including Albert Zafy, the opposition's "prime minister".

Prague's market revolution inflames politics of envy



Carnogursky proposes sweeping privatisation

YOU cannot step into the same river twice, runs the classical wisdom, yet the Slovaks of Bratislava who are perched high above the Danube are trying to do just that: to revive the nationalist icons and slogans of the war-time years when Slovakia was last an independent state.

There are always piles of chrysanthemums adorning the shrine of Father Josef Tiso at Marianka, some nine miles outside Bratislava. He was the leader of the independent Slovak state set up by the Nazis, and was executed in 1947 for his part in the deportation of 50,000 Jews. Now, for many, he is a misunderstood hero.

The strains in relations with Prague are more and more obvious. The talk on this stretch of the Danube is of Slovenia and Croatia, of break-up and divorce, of an end to federalism. Probably Czechs and Slovaks could have muddled along in an increasingly looser confederation, but the radical market economics of the Czechoslovak government are making this nigh impossible.

In the second leg of a journey down the river Danube, Roger Boyes finds economic reform has led to talk about ending federalism in Bratislava

eration, but the radical market economics of the Czechoslovak government are making this nigh impossible.

If the market experiment works, it will drive Slovakia closer to the Austrian and German economies, and away from Prague. If it fails, or merely stumbles, the extreme nationalists will seize their chance and propel the Slovaks along the Slovene road. Yet can the Slovak economy survive without subsidies from Prague?

The battle lines are between the Christian Democrats of Jan Carnogursky, the former dissident and now



Slovak prime minister, who is about to embark on sweeping privatisation, and Vladimir Meciar, his predecessor, who heads an unholy alliance of Slovak separatists and former communists. Michal Zatorsky, the press secretary of President Havel, upsets the Slovaks when he spoke of the rise of a new national socialism in their republic. Adding thwarted communist to right-wing chauvinist does not necessarily come out that way but he identified a danger. The mood is agrier in Bratislava than at any time since the 1989 velvet revolution.

Not that this overly bothers the young man from the Adam Smith institute. He wants anonymity — "call me, let's see, an economic adviser to the prime minister". The man sitting in the Public against Violence party offices has a missionary zeal. "What we have to do is create a constituency in favour of market reform — first sell council houses cheaply to tenants, then privatise the construction industry and the most profitable companies." That is a crib from the Thatcher formula but it makes sense in a city where housing is the most pressing

social problem and where the only response to the Prague government's privatisation programme is a handful of shops with for-sale signs.

Resistance to market reform is deeper here than almost anywhere else in Central Europe: the shame of unemployment is felt intensely. Yet Slovak unemployment is accelerating — up from 95,000 in April to 160,000 in June — because of layoffs in the republic's antiquated arms industry. The bile rises when Slovaks compare their lot with the Czechs: there are twice as many people in the Czech republic as in Slovakia yet the brunt of national unemployment is borne by the Slovaks. Consumer prices are up 68 per cent compared with this time last year. Food prices are rising more rapidly than in the Czech lands. The Slovak economy has everything pitched against it: an energy-intensive heavy industry, dependent on imports of raw materials from

the Soviet Union and production orientated towards exports to Moscow.

If the Slovak government does not recapture the Soviet market for synthetic textiles, 26,000 jobs will be lost and at least three Christian Democratic deputies could lose their seats in the June 1992 elections. "We keep telling the parliamentary deputies who come to us — don't worry, don't be afraid," says the man from Adam Smith. "Supporting market reform need not be such a big ballot box risk." But he cannot predict how fast unemployment will rise.

Few understand this better than Mr Meciar, the leader of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia. He was ousted as prime minister in April by Mr Carnogursky. Prague likes Mr Carnogursky, who came up through the dissident movement, but is frightened by Mr Meciar. Many Slovaks argue that it is better to frighten Prague than make friends with it. The

Meciar line is that the federal government's "scenario for economic reform" places an unfair burden on the Slovaks. The market revolution, Mr Meciar argues, is supposed to enrich the Czechs. This is the politics of resentment that has echoes up and down the Danube.

The resistance to reform has created a real opposition for the first time since 1989; no bad thing if it were not for the sinister ingredients that are being tossed into the political brew.

Mr Meciar's crusade against the market is backed by the right-wing Slovak National party, which has never been shy of throwing jibes at Hungarians, Jews and gypsies, and the Party of the Democratic Left — former communists, but unlike similar organisations in Eastern Europe, still with traces of the old-style ideology.

Next: Down-river to Nagymaros

Yugoslavia moves troops into key Croatia town

From TIM JUDAH IN ZAGREB

FEAR was mounting in Zagreb yesterday that an attack on the town of Petrinja, 50 miles southeast of the Croatian capital, was imminent. Yesterday afternoon, the Croatian ministry of information reported that a convoy of 40 Yugoslav army lorries and three armoured vehicles had left Zagreb and arrived in the town of 15,000 inhabitants, which is split almost equally between Croats and Serbs.

More than 30 Croats were reported to have died in fighting on Friday and Saturday and one policeman was killed and six wounded yesterday during a clash near the

border of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Croats believe that Petrinja will be the next target of Serb militiamen thrusting northwards from their secessionist enclave of Krajina because it lies on the south bank of the Kupa river, which they are claiming as their northern frontier.

On Saturday night and early yesterday, several Croatian villages along the frontline, and near Zadar on the Dalmatian coast, came under mortar fire and machinegun attacks. There were also explosions in and around the Slavonian towns of Vukovar and Osijek.

On Saturday, Yugoslav air force jets were again in action against Croatian nationalist guard positions; this time near the town of Ilok in the east of the republic. Countering Croatian accusations of unprovoked attacks, an army spokesman said that the planes had responded when fired upon during "training exercises".

There was a sense of deep gloom in Zagreb yesterday. The state television constantly showed heavily damaged Croatian villages, fleeing refugees, tanks in fields and people praying for peace. Petrinja lies some 15 miles to the northeast of Zadar, which fell to Serb militiamen on Saturday after a prolonged mortar attack and machinegun fire on the police station. Throughout the day Croatian villages around Zadar were also subjected to a constant barrage of mortar fire. On Friday, a German journalist, Egon Scotland, of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, was killed in Jukinac when his car came under fire.

Milan Brezak, the Croatian deputy interior minister, accused the Yugoslav army of operating in collusion with the Serbs. However, he added: "Some soldiers wanted to help our police and some the terrorists."

In Dubrovnik, at a summit meeting of Yugoslavia and its five neighbouring countries, Gianni de Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, called for a new European Community peace initiative. Ante Markovic, the federal prime minister, has hinted that he may resign if his peace plan, presented to Yugoslavia's state presidency last week, is not put into effect.

Leading article, page 15

EC team's role to be debated

From TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

ANY suggestion that the European Community's monitoring team in Yugoslavia should be transformed into a peacekeeping force will cause sharp differences between Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and his counterparts in Brussels today.

France is known to favour the deployment of forces operating under the Western European Union, which co-ordinates the nine EC members of Nato, in Yugoslavia. But Hans-Dieter Genscher, the German foreign minister, who also holds the chairmanship of the union at this time, is opposed to any military commitment at this stage.

Mr Hurd will argue that the European Community can play a peacekeeping role only if the Yugoslav federal government and Slovene and Croatian authorities demand it. Hans van den Broek, the foreign minister of The Netherlands, suggested at the weekend that joint Croatian and Yugoslav federal army peacekeeping patrols should be set up and they could be coordinated by the EC's present monitoring team.

It is clear for the moment that the team, which has about 50 members, is unsuited to any peacekeeping tasks, as it comprises mainly civilians. Britain, for example, has sent three foreign office officials, two of whom represent Britain at the United Nations in Vienna, and two ministry of defence officials. A foreign office spokesman said yesterday that the officials, who speak Serbo-Croat fluently, would be engaged only in monitoring duties.

The only EC countries not represented in the monitoring team are those that border Yugoslavia — Italy and Greece. The team has been built up steadily since the Brioni agreement, detailing the EC's peace plan for Yugoslavia, was signed one month ago. The team is now working in Croatia; earlier it had been restricted to Slovenia.

The foreign office spokesman said that a peacekeeping force without Yugoslav approval was a "non-starter". But a spokeswoman for Mr van den Broek said that the Yugoslav federal army, and over the weekend, the Croatian militia, had asked the EC for peacekeeping troops.



Escape route: Filipinos in Angeles rushing to cross the Abacan river on makeshift walkways after volcanic mudflows, unleashed by monsoons, destroyed the main bridge (background), and made almost 90,000 homeless near Mount Pinatubo. At least ten people have died in the heavy rains

Soviet leader seizes summit chance to boost status

From MARY DELEVSKY IN MOSCOW

WHEN President Bush's plane touches down in Moscow late this evening, the American leader will be sucked immediately into the maelstrom of Soviet politics. This full-dress summit — which both leaders were so keen to hold that they announced and organised it in less than two weeks — is a chance for President Gorbachev to show that he and the Russian Federation, and leave for home from the Ukraine.

Mr Gorbachev, it seems, did not want the Soviet media to be diverted from his role as co-host of a superpower summit. The kudos to be gained from signing the Start treaty reducing strategic-range nuclear weapons will be welcome, but he must ensure that nobody presents it as anything akin to a defeat for the Soviet Union. Moscow will want to avoid hard figures for the Start treaty, otherwise it would have to say that it has pledged to cut 35 per cent, or 4,000 of its long-range warheads, compared with only 25 per cent, or 3,000 for the Americans. Mr Gorbachev will prefer to emphasise, as the Soviet media are already doing, that this is the first time so many

weapons will be eliminated and that the proposed cuts amount to almost 30 per cent of their joint nuclear arsenal.

The sensitive question of America's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) project must also be avoided. The indications are that Moscow has agreed to the Start treaty without obtaining assurance from Washington on SDI, something it formerly swore it would not do. Again, the nature of the concessions which enabled agreement to be reached between Mr Gorbachev and Mr Bush in less than two hours, is probably better if it remains in obscurity.

As well as abandoning all talk of help and the scare stories of economic collapse, Mr Gorbachev has used the days between the Group of Seven meeting of lending industrialised countries in London and the summit to show that the Soviet Union is changing. Every possible channel of publicity has been directed to telling the West that the Soviet Communist party has buried Marxism-Leninism — including the provision of advance information to a Western news agency.

Gorbachev loses political guru

From OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW

ALEKSANDR Yakovlev, the man long regarded as President Gorbachev's political guru and the chief inspiration of glasnost, announced at the weekend that he was resigning from Mr Gorbachev's team.

Mr Yakovlev, who is not in good health and was discharged from hospital recently, did not say why he was leaving or what he intended to do. He recently joined Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister, in founding the centrist Movement for Democratic Reform.

Mr Yakovlev's one-sentence announcement came only hours after the Soviet Union's constitutional watchdog had asked Boris Yeltsin, the Russian leader, to postpone implementation of his ban on organised political activity at places of work pending a full enquiry into its legality. The decree had caused panic among party officials, many of whom saw a threat to their jobs and influence. Mr Yeltsin so far has not responded.

Political observers in Moscow yesterday tended to connect both developments with last week's plenum of the Communist party central

committee, when Mr Gorbachev successfully fostered the appearance of unity around a platform closer to social democracy than traditional Marxism-Leninism.

Mr Yakovlev, aged 67, has been closely associated with Mr Gorbachev since the Brezhnev years, when he was sent into virtual exile as the Soviet ambassador to Canada, reportedly for an ideological indiscretion. Mr Gorbachev appointed Mr Yakovlev as party propaganda chief when he became general secretary of the party in March 1985.

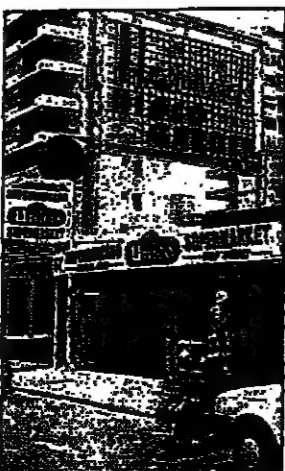
He left the politburo and central committee a year ago and retains only ordinary party membership. Over the past two years, he has been the focus of much scurrilous criticism from party hardliners.

Mr Yakovlev's appearance in, or absence from, Mr Gorbachev's retinue over the years has frequently indicated the direction of the political wind, and some will see his resignation as an adverse sign. A more prosaic reason for his resignation could be his health and a belief that his work for Mr Gorbachev is complete.

Letters, page 15

Trouble in store as Harrods steps after copycat disco

From RITA GROSVENOR IN ALICANTE



Famous name: all lit up in Benidorm

HARRODS of Knightsbridge, the top people's store, has been engaged by a favourite night spot for Britons on holiday on the Spanish Costa Blanca.

Harrods of Benidorm has not only taken on the world famous name of the exclusive London store where the Queen is a customer. It has also "borrowed" the colours of the classic green and gold logo and the same lettering.

The copycat sign flashes in bright yellow lights between the high-rise budget holiday hotels of Benidorm's seedy Rincon de Loix area. The district has none of the gentility of Knightsbridge. It

is where boisterous tourists gather for cut-price beer and all-night happy hours, fish and chips and bawdy toga parties in British-style pubs.

Inside the frenzied disco clients jostle for bar space and shots of Harrods own-label whisky at £2 a time, served from the same distinguished green-and-gold-labelled bottles found in the off-licence department of the other Harrods.

One of the barmaids is Diana Hoffman, aged 22, from Holland. She is sultry, long-legged and wears mini shorts. "My boyfriend is one of the owners. He went to London, saw Harrods and

rather liked the name," she said. "People coming here like the posh association."

The disco hours are much the same as the store's — 9 to 5 — except the disco keeps nighttime hours.

There are Harrods T-shirts on sale and even "door-men", such as Paul Rudd, aged 24, from Castleford, Leeds, to encourage the punters. He is dressed, not in a smart green overcoat and gold braided cap like his London counterpart, but in jeans and T-shirt. In his hand is a wad of Harrods visiting cards with the familiar lettering printed in bright yellow on a gawdy green

background. He hands these to people passing by to coax them in. "The folk who come here aren't is-di-da but they have more fun," said Paul. "It is really jumping at three in the morning and you couldn't say that about the other place."

Harrods of London is not amused. The shopping emporium jealously guards its symbol. In the past the store has restrained various offenders, including a Harrods mail order firm in Colchester, a Harrods furniture dealer in Clapham and even a Harrods restaurant 12,000 miles away in New Zealand.

Michael Cole, a spokesman for Harrods, said: "We are taking legal steps through our lawyers in Madrid to prevent this place infringing our copyright."

Pedro Jurado, Spanish manager of the Benidorm Harrods, is unconcerned. "I've heard nothing about it," he said. "Why should Harrods worry about us? We are good publicity for them."

"I do sometimes wonder now if it is a good name for a disco. When you think of Harrods, you think of sales, don't you? The only thing cheap about our Harrods is the happy hour drinks through the night."

Police see third man as rape suspect

Milan — A criminal investigation, which in the words of its chief prosecutor would have inspired Luigi Pirandello, the Sicilian playwright noted for his convoluted plots, has apparently ended with a final dramatic twist (Andrew McEwen writes).

It has a cast of 13 female victims, three alleged rapists of almost identical appearance — two of whom were innocent but wrongly imprisoned — and a determined mother — who turned herself into an amateur detective to prove her son's innocence.

Police in Turin had been hunting a serial rapist who had the habit of bursting into tears after his attacks and confiding in his victims. Between February 1988 and last summer he raped at least 13 women and gave them a host of clues. Based on these clues, police arrested Giovanni Giuffrida, whose mother continued to try to clear his name.

She finally spotted her son's double, who fits the clues closer than her son. But even after his arrest, the rapes continued. Now he has been released and another double is under investigation. Police consider that the case is closed.

Mafia indicated

Rome — A gangster turned informer has said the mafia killed Roberto Calvi, a financier with Vatican connections found hanging from a London bridge in 1982 after a banking scandal, a paper here said. Francesco Mannino said he was told Calvi was killed because he had taken money from the mafia. (AP)

Car bomb death

Bilbao — Suspected Basque separatists exploded a car bomb by remote control as paramilitary civil guards drove past, killing one and injuring another, two days before King Juan Carlos was scheduled to visit the Basque country in northern Spain, local officials said. (AP)

Hopes dashed

Gibraltar — Gibraltarians hope that the Spanish claim to the Rock could be bypassed by allowing sovereignty over it to be held by Europe were dashed here by the foreign office minister, Tristan Garel-Jones. He ruled it out as an option and urged Gibraltarians to come up with realistic ideas.

Gypsies' plea

Ystad, Sweden — About 50 gypsies who arrived here from Poland over the weekend have asked for political asylum after alleged harassment by the Polish authorities, police said. They were transferred to a reception centre pending a decision on asylum. (AFP)

Suicide pact

Berlin — Two men, aged 52 and 56, who robbed an armoured car of 200,000 marks (£67,000) in Stadel, committed suicide as troops stormed a home in Barnstedt, 30 miles north of Hamburg, police said. A guard was shot and wounded during the robbery. (AP)

Film awards

Tasmania, Sicily — Britain's *Life is Sweet*, a film about a working-class couple and their twin daughters, won the main prizes at the film festival here. The jury awarded the main "Golden Carylby" to Mike Leigh, the director, and a best actors' prize to Alison Steadman, Jim Broadbent and Timothy Spall. (AP)

The stress of success has led some high-flyers to crash-land in the garden, Sally Brompton reports

How to cultivate a new career

The group of men and women listening intently to a lecture on garden design included a barrister, a dentist, a record producer, a publisher, an actress, an art dealer and several stockbrokers. They were not, however, attending the English Gardening School to learn how to redesign their gardens. These mature students were planning to redesign their lives.

In the eight years since she started the school Rosemary Alexander has discovered that the majority of her students are "burnt-out career people who want a pleasanter way of life". Many of them are professionals, like advertising account director Charles Francis, aged 39, who decided to give up his £30,000-a-year job and company car to become a garden designer. "After 15 years in advertising I was getting progressively disillusioned with it," Mr Francis says. Fortunately for him, his wife, Pam, a marketing director, was prepared to take on the role of family breadwinner, leaving him to look after Anna, their three-year-old daughter. It meant that he could take a year off to attend the school's two-day-a-week, £3,948 course in garden design. He was awarded his certificate earlier this month and has just begun his first job — designing the town garden of a former colleague for £500, or £20 an hour.

"I don't envisage making a huge amount of money, but luckily I can view it as a second salary," Mr Francis says. "It was difficult to start with, but it's amazing what you can get used to."

A landscape architect by training and former head of the department of gardening at the Inchbald School of Design in London, Ms Alexander, aged 53, prefers students with a good career track record. She only accepts "intelligent, articulate, highly motivated" people, and seldom takes anyone aged under 24. And, with about 100 applications a year from all over the world for the 32-place course, she is able to pick and choose.

The "busy socialites" who joined the course when she first started would never get in now. "They're a liability," Ms Alexander says. "Too much partying, and they can't produce their homework."

As well as attending the lectures — given by herself and about 60 part-time staff — and



Growth potential: Rosemary Alexander, of the English Gardening School, teaches burnt-out professionals the healing powers of tending the other man's grass

doing studio work, students are expected to spend a minimum of two days a week working on projects. "Some of them don't want to commit themselves to the course when they find out what hard work it is," Ms Alexander says.

As well as design, plant identification and practical horticultural techniques, the course includes draughting, surveying, garden architecture and construction, office management and writing for magazines. "If you get something published people assume you're an expert," says Ms Alexander. "It does bring in work."

She sees the recession as working in her favour. This year's intake for the course, which begins in October, includes eight redundant computer experts. "We're getting a lot of students with redundancy money who want a better way of life," she says,

and also feels she sees the current economic climate as being a good time to go into garden design. "In a recession, people draw into themselves and want to improve their home environment."

About half her students carry on with their careers while they are doing the course. An increasing number of them are barristers, a fact which baffles George Dobry, a circuit judge and Ms Alexander's husband. "He thinks they're rather foolish to take a huge drop in salary to become a garden designer," she says. She met her husband when she went to redesign his garden about ten years ago.

Teaching the high-powered can bring problems of its own. "The first six weeks are very difficult because they don't like criticism," Ms Alexander

says. "We try to be constructive but they don't take it kindly. They stand there with their shoulders squared, ready not to listen to what you're saying. It's only when you get them to relax and listen to the

isn't. She wanted to know everything about garden design before she started designing."

Barristers tend to "dot the i's and cross the t's and won't leave anything to chance."

They think every single thing through. It probably makes them better designers because they're less likely to make mistakes."

Ms Alexander estimates that 70 per cent of her students take up garden design professionally, either starting their own firms or work-

ing on country estates. One of her former students works for the Prince of Wales at Highgrove, and another at Sissinghurst. She estimates that about 10 per cent return to their original careers "because they think they can't make a living at garden design. But they usually come back to it gradually because it's so much in your bones that it becomes totally absorbing."

Ms Alexander's own passion for gardens began when she moved to a house with 22 acres, during her first marriage. She did a short garden design course at the Inchbald school and got an unpaid job as a trainee with a firm of landscape architects. By the time she left the firm, six years later, having done a degree course in landscape architecture, she was suitably qualified to go into business on her own.

Her most expensive garden was one she designed for an embassy ten years ago, which cost £30,000. She is

redecorating her daughter's garden, to see how cheaply it can be done, and has so far spent £1,000. Her four grown-up children are "getting to be good gardeners" themselves.

"People do treat their garden designers rather like a psychiatrist, and you have to analyse the people you're working for," Ms Alexander says. "Sometimes the husband and wife want different things, and start surreptitiously sending you cuttings from magazines." She teaches her students always to listen to the person who will pay.

Her school also runs a variety of one-day £50 courses for "people with rectories and manor houses", and Ms Alexander is launching a one-day-a-week-for-a-year course in practical horticulture this October for designers "who want to learn more about the practical side of it" and people who want to improve their own gardens.

She tries out her new ideas in the small garden of her London home and in the grounds of the medieval hall house in Kent which she and her husband rent from the National Trust.

She is against gardens with "too much emphasis on bricks and mortar and hard materials. A garden should look as if it's happened with the hand of nature. If the immediate reaction is, 'Oh, how clever, there's something wrong.'"

● The English Gardening School, Chelsea Physic Garden, 66 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HS. © Times Newspapers Ltd 1991

Marriage with a tin heart

The tenth anniversary may not be romantic, but couples have every right to view it as an achievement

The tenth wedding anniversary, according to superstitious lists, is tin. Punctilious couples will already have given one another presents of cotton for the first year, paper for the second, followed annually by leather, fruit, wood, sugar, wool, salt and copper. But just when things appear to be getting better — copper, after all, makes quite acceptable bracelets — you find yourself stuck with tin. Which, I suppose, means either a very small tin of caviar or at best one of those razor-edged East European hopping tinplate birds which cater to the nursery nostalgia market.

Still, make the best of it: there is no recommended gift at all for the eleventh anniversary. At 12 you get silk; then wait ever longer intervals for silver, ruby, gold and the rest. If a tenth wedding anniversary marks anything traditional it appears to be the point where you stop bothering to count.

Anyone exposed to newspapers and magazines over the past month will grasp where all this is leading. The Prince and Princess of Wales celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary today. Or perhaps they do not celebrate it, that is, perhaps the public gaze annoys them so much that they only mark other, secret dates which none of us knows, and ignore the great day to serve us right. It would be nice to think so, but only the most cynical or self-deluding journalists pretend to see what goes on behind what E. M. Forster called "the astonishing glass

shade that interposes between married couples and the world". Especially royal married couples, because then the glass is thoroughly frosted.

The interesting question is the one which bounces the ball back behind our own marital frontiers: to wit, is a tenth wedding anniversary anything for couples to get excited about? What does it mean? Does a decade have some mystic numerological significance? Is a decade a watershed, or an achievement? Does it make you more likely to stay put?

The answer to the last question, according to Relate, the marriage guidance service, and to the 11 pages of dense statistics fixed to me by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, is yes. Relate strongly denies the existence of the legendary "seven year itch", or of any particular age at which a marriage is more prone to cracks. It claims a steady decline in the first-

hood of splitting up, starting on day one when the risk, apparently, is greatest.

Statistics bear this out: there is a smooth curve of decline in divorces according to the age of the marriage. Of the 352,000 couples who married in 1981, more than 11 per cent had split up by 1987. Since then the figures will have slowed down comfortably. So a round ten years gives a definite sense of achievement. Not, perhaps, the kind of achievement which makes every couple want to indulge in romantic excesses such as revisiting the church hand-in-hand, or even taking a day off work. But an achievement nevertheless.

Despite my wheedling, Relate refused to make "any terribly optimistic statement about people getting used to each other's little ways", or becoming more tolerant year by year. But a straw poll of slightly battered couples suggests that, even without the

"IT'S OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. ALL SHALL WE CELEBRATE?"
"AYE — LET'S HAVE TWO MINUTES' BUDDY SILENCE!"



Stereotype: the seaside postcard view

presence of young children, there is by the tenth year a sense of solidity. "You know what you have got," said one wife thoughtfully.

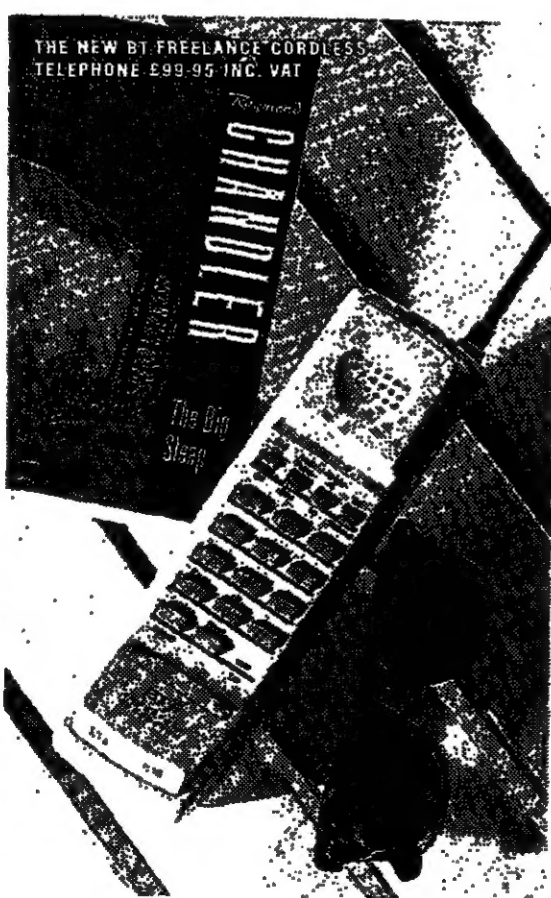
The thought of starting afresh frankly appalled some, who considered that it would take a very serious transgression to make them "throw away" a decade of memories. There is a sort of Christian pity, too. "When you've seen a man slowly grow his pot belly and lose his front hair, and he's seen you through childbirth and tummy bags, you're sort of... committed."

The tenth anniversary is not romantic. The shadows thrown by pink-shaded candlelight are gone. But it is not a bad place to be, even when the tin toy arrives without its key, and the spring jumps out and gashes your loved one's hand. By the tenth anniversary, at least, one knows where the first-aid box is kept.

LIBBY PURVES



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this
summer.



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The sun does strange things to the British. This summer however there's one device to help us maintain our traditional reserve.

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Laying plans for Mrs Thatcher

THE peasants are arriving home from the fields. An old man in a garden is stooped over a table. In deadly earnest he leans forward and says, "I am making a package for Margaret Thatcher. Do you know when her birthday is?"

What starts off looking like another Russian epic film turns out to be a challenge in slapstick to the Soviet Union, featuring half-a-dozen Ukrainian Easter eggs. The eggs, sent by the elderly Ukrainian peasant to his idol, star in *A Parcel for Margaret Thatcher*, by the Ukrainian director, Vadim Castell, which has just had its first screening in this country at the 15th Cambridge Film Festival.

The old man's quest involves bulls, haystacks, car chases and all the elements of farce. The KGB land in lakes, rip their motorbikes in half, and cover themselves in slime in their efforts to stop the eggs reaching London. The message of the film is almost overpowered by mud fights and flying fried eggs, but Ukrainians understand. "My kind of film suits Ukrainians, they laugh when someone falls over," Mr Castell says.

"The painted egg is a very potent symbol to the Ukrainians. For years it was forbidden to exist because it was viewed as a religious icon. It came to express everything that we lost under communism. Sending a painted egg to Mrs Thatcher was a way of saying to the West that we have rediscovered our smoked blouses, our religion and traditions."

The relevance of Mrs Thatcher is not lost on the Ukrainians either. "Ukrainians look on her as all that is good about the West, and I think they view Britain as another small gutsy country like us that has a wonderful heritage."

In the film both the KGB and the peasants view the sending of Easter eggs as subversive. "That's not just playing for words, that's politics," says a neighbour. The old man dreams of being interrogated by chess-playing KGB

Take some Easter eggs,
the KGB, an Iron Lady,
mix with farce — and
you have a film about
Ukrainian nationalism



A master of his oeuvre: Ukrainian director Vadim Castell

members who slowly crack the eggs in front of him and eat them.

Filming was done in three weeks with members of the Debut Unit, founded in Kiev's Dvorkenko studios in 1987 to provide a base for young directors wanting to make films as free as possible from ideological control. Mr Castell, aged 33, has covered the Afghanistan war and Chernobyl as a documentary director, but this is his first feature film.

The Moscow National Television Station, which was supposed to be sponsoring the film, was horrified. "Nyet, Nyet, Nyet," they kept saying to me," Mr Castell says. "They wanted to cut out Lenin and Gorbachev. Finally there was only Mrs Thatcher left. Then they demanded that the film be changed from Ukrainian to Russian. They refused to remunerate the production costs and I nearly ended up in debtors' prison."

That was two years ago. Now people are more willing to laugh openly at the KGB, the Ukrainian film industry has flourished and Mr Castell's film has become something of a cult. "The national feeling is growing. We are very close but we have a different history and national character. The traditional Russian character is always sad and dramatic. They drink vodka. In the Ukraine we drink cider, we are richer and more vivacious," Mr Castell says.

Although the KGB is treated with humour, Mr Castell has more reason than most to dislike the old system. His father, who also worked for state television, was arrested by the KGB as a dissident when Mr Castell was 21. He was taken to a prison camp where he mysteriously became paralysed and died a few months later. His son visited him in prison hospital and managed to smuggle out his diaries, which were published in the West.

There then followed a cat and mouse game that could have come straight from a Castell farce. "Black lines used to draw up beside me at the most inconvenient moments. I used to find strangers in my bathroom when I came home. For four years I was the only person in Kiev without a job," Mr Castell says. "It was only when the political climate became a little warmer that I could creep out and go into film, in honour of my father's memory."

His next film will also be a comedy. The story stems from a folk tale about a ruler who sent two pots of gold to Britain 200 years ago with the proviso that they could only be retrieved when the Ukraine had been liberated from the Russians. Mrs Thatcher again lends a hand. Does he not think they may have gone too far this time? "Independence is all we talk about, it is on the radio, in the shops. I couldn't do a film about anything else," Mr Castell says.

ALICE THOMSON

Back, in Iraq

TREVOR Griffiths was once described by Tom Stoppard, his ideological opposite, as perhaps the finest contemporary playwright; but he has produced little other than the odd adaptation since the triumph of his *Comedians* back in 1976. All credit, then, to the West Yorkshire Playhouse, which has announced the premiere of his *Gulf Between Us* for 1992. Look to see a left-leaning piece about British builders stuck in Baghdad while the bombs rain down.

Naked news

THE spoof police thriller *The Naked Gun 2½: The Smell of Fear*, now on release, is reported to have taken more than £5 million in UK box-office receipts in three weeks. Audiences laughing at leading player Leslie Nielsen should spare a chuckle for the intended title of the series' next entry: *The Naked Gun 3½: For the Record*.

Last chance...

The Royal Shakespeare Company seems to stage Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* more often than any other play, but rarely has it done so with less directorial fuss and more natural warmth and unfurled humour. Bill Alexander's mellow production, with Susan Fleetwood as a sauntering Amazon as Beatrice and Roger Allam as the wary becheur who tames her, has three performances at the Barbican (071-638 8891) on Friday and Saturday of this week and then takes a long summer break, returning on October 14.

ARTS REVIEWS
Salisbury Festival, Television
PAGE 18

DANCE

Spirited girl who defies the years

The plot may creak a little, but at 150 years old, *Giselle* is still one of the world's most popular ballets. Debra Craine discovers why

How's this for a scenario? A poor peasant girl is deceived by a caddish nobleman; as a result she goes mad and dies. Then in one final, selfless act she returns from the grave just long enough to save her betrayer from certain death at the hands of avenging spirits. In an era of Hollywood strong women such as Julia Roberts and Kathleen Turner, this is hardly the stuff that box-office dreams are made of. Yet this is the story of the most enduring ballet of all time, and arguably the one which more than any other has shaped the popular image of classical dance: the ethereal fantasy, dressed in white, as portrayed in countless Victorian lithographs.

This year, *Giselle* is 150 years old. And, although the libretto by Théophile Gautier seems politically incorrect in today's climate and the stylised choreography by Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot looks distinctly old-fashioned, the ballet is rarely out of the spotlight. It remains in the repertoire of virtually every major company around the world.

Next month, Scottish Ballet is reviving Peter Darrell's 1973 production of *Giselle*, while next season both the Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet are performing productions by Peter Wright. Tonight English National Ballet opens its Festival Hall season with a revival of Mary Skeaping's celebrated 1971 production to mark the sesquicentennial.

Ballerinas, like their audiences, have been in love with *Giselle* ever since Carlotta Grisi created the character at the Paris Opera Ballet on June 28, 1841. Attracted by the dramatic challenge of its two contrasting acts – the happy teenage girl of the first and the doomed spirit of the second – ballerinas have coveted it as the ultimate vehicle for the widest range of expressions in ballet.

For Maria Teresa del Real, dancing the title role tonight,

Giselle "is like taking a Shakespeare play and trying to bring new life to it. It is a classic which is good in any age, any time, if you know how to bring it up to date while at the same time keeping its style, without turning it into a lithograph."

Renata Calderini, another of the company's *Giselles*, believes "*Giselle* will always be a masterpiece. You cannot get rid of it; it is our history. To appreciate modern ballet it is necessary also to know and appreciate *Giselle*. It's like in painting; you can love Picasso but you can also love Rembrandt."

The problem with staging a ballet 150 years old is that it can all

'A man who can drive a woman to her grave by deceiving her is not the hero of today's ideal love story'

too easily become a museum piece, locked into a quaint historical perspective with little or no relevance for a late 20th century audience. The Skeaping production is traditional, using Adolphe Adam's score almost in its entirety and recreating the spirit of the original *Giselle*, without attempting to reconstruct every detail from its first performances. As Skeaping herself once wrote: "It is doubtful if the production conventions of that time would be acceptable to modern audiences. Perhaps they would only destroy what has become for us the essence of romanticism."

That essence of romanticism was not always as popular as it is today, though. When Dame Alicia Markova became the first British ballerina to dance the role, in 1934

at the Vic-Wells Ballet, the two-act classic was rarely performed. According to Markova now: "It wasn't popular because it was considered that you had to have the right cast. It was a role for a very great ballerina; they called it the *Hamlet* of the ballet. Everybody wanted to do it, but it was rather special. That's not true any more."

"Like most of the classics today, it's very different from what was handed down to us. Steps have been lost and technically it has been simplified in all kinds of ways. The musicality has gone. What is considered technique today is very flauted; technique in our day had to be concealed. However great the prima ballerina, she must never be that in *Giselle*, she must never show it."

What is true now is that the idea of feminine sacrifice and forgiveness is not so palatable as it was 150 years ago. A man like Albrecht, who can drive a woman to her grave by deceiving her, is not the caring sharing hero of today's ideal love story. Indeed, how many *Giselles* would forgive their Albrechts in 1991? "In fact, there wouldn't be a *Giselle* if the ballet were created today," says Markova. "She would just turn around, go back to the village and find another boy, wouldn't she?"

Yet according to Paul Chalmers, who dances Albrecht to Calderini's *Giselle*, the character does redeem himself in the end to a modern audience. "Albrecht is a bit of a cad who was never in love with *Giselle*. In the first act he's a young, dashing prince who sees this beautiful peasant girl and figures he can sneak away from the castle for a few days and have a good time with her. Only remorse and guilt over her death make him grow up in the second act and realise what he's done. The strength of the love that comes back to save him changes his personality and so he then realises the value of hu-



The first British *Giselle*, Dame Alicia Markova: "People nowadays can't believe in an innocent love"

man relationships and of love." For Markova, "the essence of *Giselle* is innocence and that's very difficult to understand today because where's the innocence? In fact even Albrecht was innocent in my day, he wasn't a cad; he was betrothed to Bathilde but it was an arranged marriage. He had not been attracted to anyone until he

found *Giselle*. It was a reciprocal love, a young, innocent love. People nowadays can't believe in an innocent love, so they have made Albrecht into a cad. "Sometimes I see the ballet today and I can't quite understand it because of that. Perhaps as life loses its innocence, so the arts lose their innocence."

"In our time *Giselle* represented a very big emotional experience for an audience. Perhaps today people don't have as much emotion. Maybe they don't need the ballet so much. I don't know; that's for you to decide."

● *Giselle* opens tonight at Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm

COMEDY

Packs a real punchline

Britain has not hitherto been the most noteworthy of the nations participating in the annual comedy festival in Montreal. But last week we finally cracked it. From Glasgow came the uncompromising comedian Gerry Sadovitz; he stood on stage in front of 4,000 people – plus posers of reporters and the world's television cameras – and, adopting his customary take-no-prisoners style, he addressed them on the subject of Montreal itself.

It is, he opined, a dreadful place, where "half of you speak French... and the other half let them" before suggesting that Indian would be a more appropriate language, in memory of "the people you stole the country from in the first place". Such choice of material in front of zealous Québécois was to lead a whole new meaning to the concept of "Scottish Brave", as one member of the audience made his way to the front of the theatre, clambered on to the stage... and beat up the hapless comic.

I tell this story because, for many, the incident provided the most animated point of interest in a week practically unmarred by excellence. Bill Hicks, from the US, offered a one-man show of 90 minutes duration that was absolutely superb (it comes to the Edinburgh Festival in August and London's Hackney Empire in September); Mary Tyler Moore was charming as a gala night host; Roseanne Barr proved that television has not damaged her technique with a live audience.

Heard the one about the Scotsman who was beaten up at the Montreal comedy festival? Carol Sarler was there, and offers a serious appraisal of humour's future

Otherwise we were doomed to endless men telling endless stories that all revolved around the plane journey that brought them there, the hotels they had encountered and what their wives did when out shopping. Now this would not matter much if it was just about one week in Canada. But the ramifications are considerably more extensive. "Juste Pour Rire (Just For Laughs)" is now in its ninth year. The event involves dozens of countries, hundreds of shows, thousands of audiences, millions of dollars and tens of millions of television viewers.

But, increasingly, it is a festival not of comedy in general but specifically of stand-up comedy. It is also the convention for the world's funny business (they're all there: Charles Joffe, Woody Allen's producer; Marty Klein, Steve Martin's agent; and The Man Who Books For David Letterman) and as we listen to them talk, what we hear is that television, also, is increasingly concerned speci-

scally with stand-up comedy. Says Phil Beuth from the ABC network, without shame: "Comedy has taken on the same proliferation as the news. You used to have to wait for the news but now it's always on somewhere. It is the same with comedy." And stand-up comedy, says Laurie Zaks, the American co-producer of BBC 1's *Paramount City*, "is proven ratings. Nothing you can do about that."

This is where it starts to get sinister. Steven Hewitt, a senior executive with Showtime Networks (a cable station), explains the rationale. Apparently the means have been found to quadruple the number of cable stations on offer around the US: you can now squeeze four lines where you used to fit only one. This means that people will be able to choose from 80 channels.

So along come the market researchers people to reveal, says Hewitt, "that people spend on average one and a half seconds deciding whether to stay with a channel. If they see something that interests them they may have missed the first five minutes they move on. But with stand-up comedy, in that one and a half seconds, they can register that someone is there telling a joke and they haven't missed a thing."

In other words, "Stand-up comedy is the fastest read going." So what? So, says a benign-looking American looking at me looking smugly, "You ain't there yet honey, but you will be. Just wait till your cable gets going and it'll be the same story over there in the Yew Kay."



Gerry Sadovitz: a brave but foolhardy performer, physically assaulted

What a gruesome image: cables snaking across Britain, vibrating with planes, hotels and shopping, not a script or an actor or a plot or scenery or design to hamper the mediocrity of the punchline. Of course, not everyone shares the image. Seamus Cassidy, Channel 4's commissioning editor for entertainment, listened unconvinced to the argument. "I have a certain amount of faith and respect for my colleagues in other stations that they will not fall into the trap. And the lack of success for stand-up based shows that we have already had will make it more difficult; the structure doesn't exist in the same way as it does in the States."

I hope he is right. Stand-up comedy is craft, not art – you cannot repeatedly listen to the same joke. And with television consuming gaps at the rate it is in the US, standards will inevitably drop. One man-and-his-milk is cheap television; it would be a pity if it were also to become just a vehicle for cheap laughs.

PROMS: ALBERT HALL/RADIO 3

Dress code not uniformly observed

Given that the controller of Radio 3 has well-known views about musicians who break sartorial conventions, some Prommers must have been amused to see the Brandenburg Concerto appear in Friday's late-night concert sporting all manner of natty beach-wear. Here were T-shirts, red braces, pigtail ties in red bows.

This chamber orchestra was formed last year by the violinist Roy Goodman. Music critics know they are getting old when period-instrument ensembles begin to look more like teenage gangs each year. But this one seems very young, and I wonder whether it was nerves about playing in the Proms that made its performance of Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 1 so unsatisfactory. The playing had spirit, but balances were awry, particularly in the celebrated Minuet where, if listeners did not know the tune, they could hardly have heard it beneath the over-exuberant horns.

Matters improved markedly later. Corelli's Concerto Grosso, Op 6 no 4, is a marvellous exercise in 17th century stereophonic effects: two violin soloists (Goodman and Susan Carpenter-Jacobs) interjecting sharp repartee into each other's solos. That was wisely done, and Bach's glorious Suite No 4 in D was more settled, too. When this group hits its stride, its quirky exuberance is infectious.

Those concerned about sloppy dressing were surely reassured 24 hours later when, at the end of the BBC Symphony Orchestra's all-Russian

programme under the Soviet conductor Alexander Lazarev, the Band of the Grenadier Guards made a spectacular entrance to boost Tchaikovsky's 1812 overture. In stifling heat (the television lighting had been on) the guardsmen were wearing their bearskins!

Better still, the performance was magnificent. Lazarev whipped the string passages along; nothing seemed backed; and the cannon effects, organ, bells, band and orchestra at the end are probably still echoing round the flying saucers.

Earlier, Lazarev – new to the Proms, but much admired on previous British visits – had directed a persuasive account of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Sheherazade*. The thousand and one nights had threatened to become a thousand and one wobbles, as horn and trombone solos were muffed early on. But Michael Davis's violin solos were exquisitely judged, and there was a touch of velvet about the BBC violins' phrasing in "The Young Prince and Princess".

Dmitri Alexeev was the soloist in Prokofiev's Second Piano Concerto. This is the concerto with the first-movement cadenza that turns talented pianists blue with fear: it sprays fistfuls of notes all over the keyboard and it goes on and on. Alexeev made a heroic stab at it; he also tore through the quicksilver scherzo and still had energy to storm into the whirlwind finale: a superb effort.

Another fine soloist graced the BBC Philharmonic's early Prom on Friday, conducted by Edward Downes. The horn player Barry Tuckwell has climbed some peaks over the decades, but Robin Holloway's Horn Concerto must be one of his most daunting challenges, if only because it is nearly half an hour long and the soloist dominates throughout. On the other hand, the style of the piece must seem refreshingly familiar to Tuckwell, since its first movement leaps – as if in a time-machine – straight back into the late-Romantic riches of Richard Strauss's horn concertos, while its jig-jog finale has clear antecedents in the rondo finales of Mozart's horn concertos.

However, damning Holloway for writing crypto-Romantic scores is like being cross that Maurice Chevalier spoke with a French accent: Holloway has the courage to be true to himself, and his music is eminently pleasurable and well-crafted. In this concerto, nevertheless, a little melodic inspiration is made to go a long way.

RICHARD MORRISON

The Citizen's Charter

Raising standards in schools?



In this Friday's TES new research shows that social status is more important than exam results when parents are choosing a school.

tes

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

THEATRE

Women are in charge here, but all are welcome

The Women's Playhouse Trust celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. The idea came from the author of *Sexual Politics*, Kate Millet, was taken up by the playwright Pam Gems and then passed to Jules Wright, who has been running with it ever since.

Wright, an Australian who came to London in 1978, was by 1981 assistant director at the Royal Court Theatre – at a time when there were no women directing at the National Theatre or with the Royal Shakespeare Company. A male-dominated theatre was perceived by women as expressing male values and perspectives. WPT was to redress the balance, as well as to bring more women into mainstream theatre (it was

never intended as a male exclusion zone). WPT has a reputation for commissioning new work from female writers, but not to the exclusion of all else. Its first production was Aphra Behn's *The Lucky Chance*, a play that had not been performed for 250 years. And its latest play is Ibsen's *The Lady from the Sea*, which opens tomorrow.

WPT has not changed the axis of Ibsen's changed, but the interpretation is, play, but the interpretation is, according to Wright, not simply about a woman choosing between two men, but about self-discovery and existential freedom. "This is a very important journey, and not the usual one made in the play."

In 1988, Wright "began to address WPT to Europe, to see



it in a European context." European theatre, she says, "is our driving force", acting as a cross-fertilisation by bringing people such as Pina Bausch to workshops. That is intended to open British actors to more physical, visual theatre. A warehouse in north London is to be converted into rehearsal spaces that will enable WPT to

The Women's Playhouse Trust is ten years old. Founder Jules Wright (left) looks back with Lauris Morgan-Griffiths

work like its European counterparts – Peter Brook and Ariane Mnouchkine in Paris. The hope is that it will liberate the company from the traditionally short British rehearsal time (just over four weeks for *The Lady from the Sea*). For Lev Dodin, of Leningrad's Maly Theatre, or for Brook, a rehearsal period

of a year to 18 months is not uncommon.

The impact of WPT has already been felt through the success of such writers as Timberlake Wertenbaker, Winsome Pinnock and Clare McIntyre. But it has also introduced directors, choreographers and composers and trained the first female lighting designers: all are now working in wider forums.

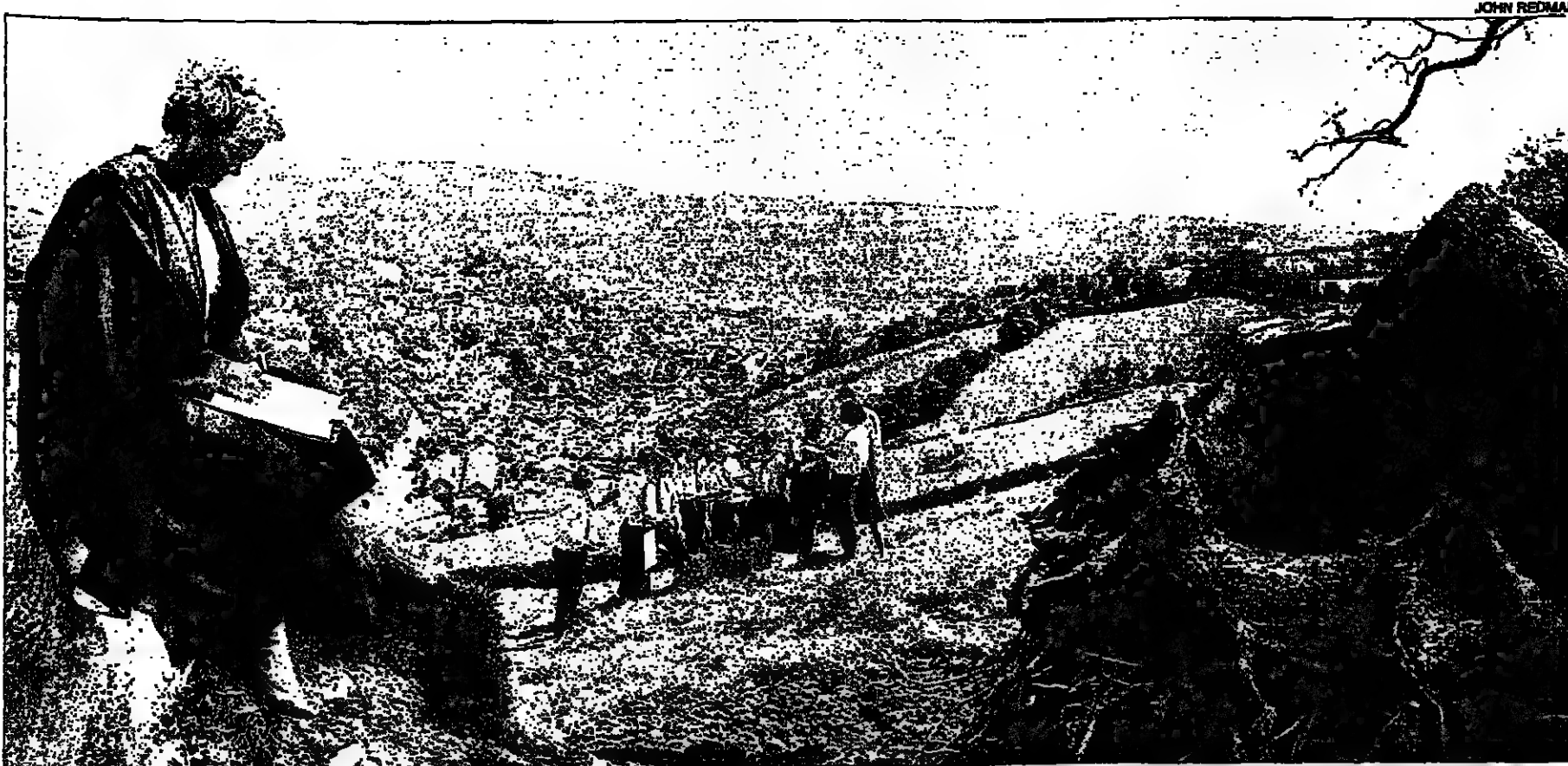
Wright considers WPT's most important work to date to have been Behn's *The Lucky Chance*, which gave female writers a sense of history; McIntyre's *Low Level Panic*, exploring female sexual fantasy ("she writes the pain and the humour of private moments in people's lives");

and Sarah Daniels's *Beside Herself*, which examined "the impact sexual abuse as a child has on an adult woman".

Two international productions are in development. The poet and playwright Deborah Levy is adapting Angela Carter's *Nights at the Circus*, which will involve rehearsing in the Soviet Union and casting Soviet performers as clowns. Levy is also writing the libretto for an opera based on Lorca's *Blood Wedding*, with a company of 40.

Wright is undeterred. "If WPT is to survive, and if it is to be important, its future has got to have very wide horizons."

● The Lady from the Sea is previewing at Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (081-748 3354), and opens tomorrow.



Sitting pretty: college principal Ann Buckingham and a group of students on an outside exercise — "we restored the joy, enthusiasm and motivation for learning"

A little bit of Devon cream

A small school in Dartmouth that faced closure has won praise from the inspectors for its staff commitment, motivation, family atmosphere and excellent exam results. David Tytler reports

When Ann Buckingham became principal of Dartmouth Community College in Devon nearly eight years ago, she knew she would have to fight to save her new job because the college, struggling to provide a comprehensive curriculum, faced closure.

Now she is able to say with confidence: "Small can be beautiful after all — and good, and successful."

Her views are largely shared by HMI, the school inspectors, who have just published their report on the co-educational college of 350 pupils aged from 11 to 16.

For many years, official government education policy has held that secondary schools should have at least 750 pupils to provide a full and balanced curriculum — the 1990 school census showed that more than half of the secondary schools in England and Wales had school rolls of between 600 and 1,000 pupils. But that view is now beginning to change.

The inspectors had few doubts when it came to Dartmouth. "Overall, this is a good and successful institution in which the management has successfully sustained staff commitment, motivation and morale through a long period of considerable change," they said. "It has many strengths

in its leadership, in stating its intentions to a range of audiences, in its curriculum planning and in providing an environment in which students feel secure and valued."

One of the first things Mrs Buckingham did when she joined the college, which overlooks Dartmouth and the Dart estuary, was to take a step back and look at the curriculum. "We removed the clutter and the overlap and restored the joy, enthusiasm and motivation for learning. We were under threat and had to be good. The challenge was to get the curriculum right."

The 30 subjects were trimmed to ten, along the lines of what has now become the national curriculum.

At 16, pupils at Dartmouth Community College move on to sixth-form colleges or local grammar schools. In 1989, 58 per cent of the college's 16-year-olds stayed on in full-time education, compared with the county average of 49 per cent. In 1990, the college achieved a figure of 52 per cent.

Small schools have one great

advantage, Mrs Buckingham believes. "We are able to have a family atmosphere with a lot of personal contact," she says. "With 21 teachers we can have an overall view of the curriculum, a process that would take much longer if we had 100 teachers. We can get things in the right order and get the progression right."

The college is divided into tutorial groups of 20 children from all age groups, who stay with the same tutor throughout their school career. The tutors build up a relationship not only with the children but also with their parents. The groups meet for short periods every day.

The inspectors are full of praise: "Students appreciate and benefit from the support provided through the tutorial system. The mixed-age tutor groups provide good continuity and allow students of all ages to get to know each other well. Most tutors know their students well and establish friendly and supportive relationships with groups and individuals."

Tutors respond well to the demands placed upon them to

provide appropriate monitoring of individuals and year groups, and to deal with such issues as records of achievement and personal, social and moral education. They give generously of their non-teaching time to meet many of those demands."

All the children in the school are referred to as students. "We treat them as very grown-up people," Mrs Buckingham says. The students undertake self-appraisal, which they then discuss with their tutors, and together they compile a record of achievement.

Mrs Buckingham and her present staff aim for every 16-year-old to take at least one subject at GCSE level. They achieved the target in 1989, and hit 95.1 per cent last year, when a third obtained five or more passes at grades A-C.

In nearly every HMI report there is criticism. At Dartmouth, for example, the inspectors pointed out that the 22.5 teaching hours a week ran short of government recommendations that sec-

ondary schools should teach a total of at least 24 hours each week. Ways are now being examined to increase teaching time.

Two out of three lessons were satisfactory or better "but there was a wide variety of teaching quality," says the report. "It is not possible to generalise about the standards achieved by students across the college. There is a wide variation from subject to subject. For example, the general standards in English and science are relatively good, while standards in humanities are relatively poor, despite the evidence of quality found in environmental and community aspects."

"There are aspects over which the staff have no control and which inhibit the further development of quality. The premises are generally ill-suited to the requirements of a modern school as half the teaching space is in 'temporary huts'. The poor quality and dispersed nature of much of the provision poses severe problems for the teaching of the national curriculum in art, geography, history, music, physical education and technology."

Mrs Buckingham, however, is still convinced that small is beautiful. "Individual attention — that is what is really special," she says. "We see ourselves as providing a service to the parents."

Ruthless policies may be needed

New legislation has been undermined and reforms discredited among teachers

Ruthlessness is not a character trait that commands itself too readily to the liberal conscience. Politicians who manifest it too openly are regarded with understandable suspicion, and ministerial displays of it provoke howls of protest from those who see themselves as its actual or potential victims.

In an ideal world, ruthlessness is unequivocally reprehensible. Yet, so far from ideal are the conditions and performance of our education system that I find myself its reluctant advocate.

After 12 years of Conservative administration, ministers, through a series of education acts, have sought a reformed, improved, more consumer-responsive education system, but have consistently denied themselves the means of its fulfilment. In their appointments positions in influential quangos they have acted as though they believed members of the educational establishment could renounce their convictions and turn the government's legislative intentions into fact. Concerns about the shortcomings of the GCSE, the complicated and time-consuming tests for seven-year-olds, the restrictiveness of the national curriculum and the number of expensively produced government reports have prompted strong criticism from the prime minister downwards.

The way education legislation has been implemented has not only undermined the government's intentions but also weakened its authority by totally discrediting the reforms among the teachers who have to make them work. Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, appears to have an engaging disregard for the views of educational experts. His dismissive rejection of a number of reports from his advisers is a clear indication of that.

In appointing Lord Griffiths as the chairman of the Schools Examinations and Assessment Council and David Pask as his opposite number at the National Curriculum Council, Mr Clarke has shown his intention to make the government's reforms work. So far, so good. However, one

bastion remains unstormed. Essential to the success of any educational reform is the quality and approach of those required to carry the reforms into the classroom. A key factor in this is the view of teacher education taken by the Committee for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (Cate).

Recent reports by HMI, the government inspectorate, have drawn attention to the disquieting fact that one in every three lessons observed in such fundamental disciplines as English and mathematics is unsatisfactory or worse. In certain areas and schools the proportions will be even higher. What is not clear is how much is due to the poor calibre of the teachers concerned and how much to their defective training and teaching techniques.

Whatever combinations of these are involved, the reports expose shortcomings in either the selection procedures or the training, or both. At the end of last week reports from the HMI inspectors of schools said that two courses for mature students at Manchester university and the South Bank polytechnic should be scrapped or heavily revised. This is nothing new. The school at which I taught in the early Seventies provided teaching practice facilities for a trainee teacher of English and social studies who was so awful that staff of all ideological persuasions united in condemning him as idle, incompetent, unpunctual and uncommittal.

Within three months of commencing this view to his training college, we learnt that he had qualified as a teacher. Conscientious teacher trainers have complained of institutional resistance to their attempts to fail unsatisfactory students. Occasionally they were threatened with physical violence from the students themselves — unpunished and unadmonished by the college authorities.

All of this fits within the province of Cate and all of it is well known to Mr Clarke, who must now be contemplating his final offensive. I cannot believe that he will stop short of Baghdad.

LAWRENCE NORCROSS

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Lecturers sue Clarke on pay

The education secretary is withholding £13 million as he fights to retain the right to dictate the terms of pay negotiations for polytechnic and college teachers, John O'Leary writes

Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, is the subject of a High Court action today that could shape the way academics are paid. The Association of Polytechnic and College Teachers, which is challenging Mr Clarke's right to withhold £13 million from the institutions' budget until he is satisfied with the shape of their pay deal for lecturers, is taking a considerable gamble.

If the case goes to appeal, as it almost certainly will if the government loses, the costs could bankrupt the association and hasten the arrival of conditions it opposes.

A win for Mr Clarke would mean the continuation of a system that allows him to dictate the terms of negotiations in which the government plays no direct part. Unions and employers in the universities and polytechnics resent the interference, but ministers point to their responsibility for almost £2.5 billion in academic pay.

The case starting today will turn on the judge's interpretation of legislation preventing the education secretary from making payments to individual institutions. The association is arguing both that Mr Clarke has been exceeding his powers in withholding the money and that the absence of detailed conditions for its release render his action unreasonable.

Ministers want more of the pay bill to be targeted on areas of shortage and used to reward good teaching. They also want to be sure

that appraisal is being introduced as agreed, and there is a scarcely veiled aim to move to performance-related pay before long.

Behind the detailed argument of the case, however, lies deep dissatisfaction with the machinery of negotiation and the level of academic pay. The past two years have seen almost continuous disputes, as the unions have pursued pay claims that their employers cannot meet at the same time as new conditions of service are introduced.

The Association of University Teachers is poised to accept what its own employers describe as "a rotten deal" without knowing whether the terms of their agreement will persuade Mr Clarke to free the £22 million necessary to fund the settlement.

The vice-chancellors, having paid 5 per cent on account, insist that they cannot pay more than a staged increase of 7.4 per cent, although they accept the union's case for twice as much.

In polytechnics, where much of the flexibility sought by the government has already been included in personal contracts, the lecturers are expecting an offer almost 2 per cent below that made to their university counterparts. Negotiations were to have opened today, but have been postponed, probably until September.

In the next two years, a single bargaining system will be introduced as the distinction between universities and polytechnics disappears.

Whether the hard-line polytechnic approach or the more moderate negotiating tone of the universities is adopted, there is no sign of academics receiving the kind of pay increases their unions and employers say is needed to catch up on ground lost in the past decade to restore morale and attract the large numbers of qualified staff that will be needed.

The differences between the sectors have been obvious, both in their approach to Mr Clarke's hold-back policy and in the conduct of the latest pay negotiations.

The Polytechnic and College Employers' Forum has been closely involved in framing the

criteria for the release of their money, using it as a bargaining counter with the unions.

Although the employers' hard line has made for poor industrial relations in the polytechnics, the concessions forced on lecturers last year won them a 15 per cent rise spread over 19 months. National bargaining has survived the introduction of personal contracts, and few polytechnics have yet taken advantage of the stricter terms and conditions applying to lecturers.

While national attention has focused on Birmingham polytechnic, which introduced even tougher contracts for its staff, some other institutions have already watered down the most unpopular parts of the national agreement. Nottingham polytechnic has cut the maximum number of hours lecturers may be asked to work, while Sunderland polytechnic has reinstated the right to extra time to prepare lectures.

In the universities, the vice-chancellors have not sought the same close relationship with the government. They have opposed the hold-back and sought supplementary grants to improve their pay offer. Mr Clarke and the prime minister refused to meet them to hear the case.

The vice-chancellors' current offer does not deliver the increase in the proportion of the salary budget distributed selectively that was sought by Mr Clarke. Yet the universities cannot afford to pay a 7.4 per cent increase unless their £22 million is released.

The facing of such different cultures into a single employers' body will be far from easy, and Mr Clarke may prefer to encourage more local bargaining. Labour, by contrast, has now announced plans for a pay review body for lecturers to match the one promised to teachers. Either approach



Pay headache: Kenneth Clarke wants to control the cash

would see the end of the hold-back policy that has been such a convenient lever for ministers in trying to change the way in which lecturers are paid.

The government will be eager to win the legal battle with the association, however, both because of the possible effect on pay negotiations and for the precedent it will set on ministers' right to intervene in the running of higher education. Mr Clarke is determined that the pay structure should be geared to greater efficiency, rather than any judgment

on the going rate for academics. The association's action is a possible stumbling block in this process. Although outwardly confident of victory, Christine Cheesman, the association's chief executive, admits to disappointment at the lack of support from other unions and will not say whether the association would contest an appeal.

As the higher education unions become increasingly powerless, it is hard to imagine Mr Clarke allowing today's case to deflect him from his mission.

Pressure on parents

LABOUR councillors will meet today to decide whether to withdraw a letter asking parents to reconsider their decision to send their children to a grant-maintained school which the local authority wants to close. Tim Eggar, the schools minister, accused Newham council, east London, of "old-fashioned party thuggery" and ordered the council to withdraw the "scurrilous, misleading and frightening" letter by Wednesday.

In a letter to parents who had chosen Stratford school, Sean Lawless, Newham's education director, said that the authority had decided to close the school, which it cannot do unless a Labour government hands back grant-maintained schools to council control. The authority has already withdrawn the school's right to use of Newham's music school and outdoor sports centre.

Mr Lawless told parents that he is concerned about the school's ability "to provide a good education since the numbers there are now so low", and offered alternative places at a council school.

Anne Snelling, who took over as head of the school when it opened in April, said that parents had complained about the letter but that it had not affected the intake. "When I took over there were around 190 pupils but this September we will be approaching 500."

End of lessons

TEN secondary schools in Wales will not have to teach Welsh after pupils reach 14, David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, has announced. "Some schools that also made requests for the exemption may well be disappointed," he says, "but my view remains that Welsh is an integral part of the curriculum and the range of exemptions should be limited."

Unpaid service

SCHOOL governors should be paid expenses, says the Secondary Heads Association in a letter to Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary. "We are seriously concerned that there will be a shortage of suitable people to provide schools with the high-quality governors they need. We hope Mr Clarke will take the necessary action as

soon as possible," says John Sutton, the general secretary. The association's letter says: "Unlike other public officers, governors are unable to claim expenses for travel, training or child minding, nor are they entitled to compensation for loss of earnings. Inevitably, therefore, there is a degree of cost for every governor, and the greater the commitment given, the greater the cost."

Screen test

SCRIPTS from *Neighbours*, the BBC serial, are being used to teach secondary school children English, two months after Michael Fallon, the junior schools minister, dismissed the programme as "junk". The education department said that because Mr Fallon had not seen the newly published collection of four scripts, it was not appropriate to comment.

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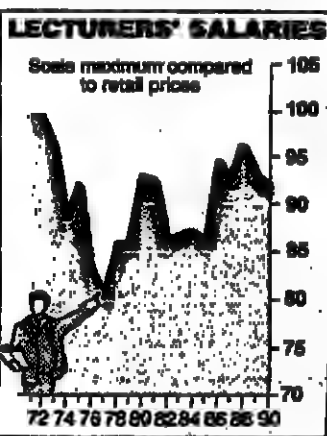
MICHAEL Fryers, a sixth-former at Altrincham grammar school, Greater Manchester, became only the second Briton to be awarded a perfect score in the mathematical olympiad, when this year's competition was held at Sigüenza, the ancient capital of Sweden.

Four of the nine scholars to achieve the feat this year were from the Soviet Union, whose team had the best record of the 52 countries competing.

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Ronald Butt

Political columnists must be prepared to go against the grain of media fashion

For the past 22 years I have contributed a column to this page and it is time for it to stop. It is the oldest column in *The Times* and, I think, the oldest political column in any daily newspaper. It began in March 1969 when William Rees-Mogg was editor and has been written under four editors since. The essence of a column is its freedom. That does not mean simply a columnist's freedom to write according to his convictions, but more specifically scope for the column to develop organically, even in ways the columnist himself does not foresee at the outset.

A column is a hard taskmaster because the space is always there to be filled, even when inspiration burns low and no topic imperiously demands discussion. But the fact that the space is always there (subject, naturally, to the editor's decision to publish or not to publish) is also the column's crowning advantage, freeing the columnist to write what he believes needs writing about.

A columnist on political affairs should, of course, comment on any subject of importance that is currently in the forefront of public discussion, if he has something to say. But his overarching job is to follow his own thinking wherever it leads, testing it rationally against the discoverable facts. The columnist's mind should be both informed and free-standing. Every editor for whom I have worked has understood this, perhaps not least because three have been distinguished columnists.

At the outset, this column was pretty strictly about "conventional" politics. But I became increasingly convinced that what mattered in post-Sixties politics was not simply the tortured arguments about economic management, which ended in frustration until we faced the realities under Margaret Thatcher. No less important, for good or ill, were the social changes affecting individual behaviour brought about by pressure groups working through private members' legislation on which the public was never asked for a clear mandate.

What parliament sanctions by legislation is taken in the end to be morally tolerable, and people are led to accept by stealth what they would never have accepted had they been able to see ahead. The 1967 abortion bill, so drafted as to allow convenience abortions on demand, despite undertakings to the contrary, was perhaps the outstanding example. Some terrible abuses followed, but attempts to reform the law failed through parliamentary obstruction.

Nothing has done more than this act has to undermine the social values of 2,000 years of civilisation, and it therefore seemed to me as least as relevant a subject for discussion in a political context as (say) the ephemera of incomes policy. Indeed, it was the more important for someone to do so because it went against the grain of media fashion.

The same was true of the legislation making divorce easier, which has done much to undermine the family, and of the promotion by pressure groups (some, like the Family Planning Association, in receipt of government funding) of "non-judgmental" sex education which told children that if they really wanted sex nothing need stop them, provided they took precautions against pregnancy and (later) Aids.



Ronald Butt leaving after 22 years as a columnist

Similarly, changes in the obscenity law in the name of liberty have led to a large and damaging pornography industry (despite the libertarians' assurances at the time that satiety would be followed by falling demand). Who can now plausibly deny that harm has been done and society is more sexually violent? At the time it was not thought politically correct to notice these matters, and some more sophisticated journalists seemed almost to think I was going off my head to take these things seriously when I could be writing happily about managing the economy and the manoeuvres of party politics.

The heirs of Wittgenstein are diminished by an unseemly squabble, says Daniel Johnson

When moral philosophers don't pull their punches

Forty years after his death, Ludwig Wittgenstein has become the occasion for an unseemly Anglo-Austrian philosophical squabble. A Wittgenstein conference due to be held in Salzburg next month was cancelled after protests against a planned lecture by Peter Singer, the Australian philosopher.

Mr Singer has lately turned his attention from animal rights to those of human beings. He advocates voluntary euthanasia for the terminally ill and the same treatment (only involuntary) for severely disabled infants. This is a sensitive subject in Austria: not only because it is a predominantly Catholic country, but also on account of the euthanasia programme of the Nazis.

At its annual meeting in Durham this month, the Aristotelian Society passed a motion censuring the Austrian organisers for allegedly compromising academic freedom. There were dissenting voices at the Durham gathering, but the majority insisted on issuing a statement condemning the Ludwig Wittgenstein Society.

Euthanasia and academic freedom are serious matters, eminently suitable for moral philosophers to debate calmly. On that score, neither the Austrians nor the British emerge with credit.

This failure by Wittgenstein's heirs to rise to the level of civilised discourse has something poignant about it. It is part of the Wittgenstein mythology that he once brandished a poker after a disagreement with a fellow émigré from Vienna, Karl Popper. What actually happened was less theatrical. Sir Karl, as he is now, describes the incident thus: "At that point Wittgenstein, who was sitting near the fire and had been nervously playing with the poker... challenged me: 'Give an example of a moral rule!' I replied: 'Not to threaten visiting lecturers with pokers.' Whereupon Wittgenstein, in a rage, threw the poker down and stormed out of the room..."

If the man who set in motion so many philosophical dialogues was too intolerant to conduct one himself, the antics of the present generation of philosophers become explicable.

None of this sits comfortably with the ideal of the serene contemplative, living and dying with perfect composure. But few modern philosophers even attempt to live the *vita contemplativa*. Tom Stoppard's television

play *Professional Foul*, about a philosophical conference in pre-1989 Prague, depicted the odious symbiosis between Western dons and their communist hosts, abruptly disturbed by the intrusion of real dissidents and secret policemen into the abstract playground of moral choices.

Long before philosophers held formal conferences, with agendas and invitations and motions of censure, conversation and correspondence between *savants* were the principal means by which theories not yet ripe for publication could be tested.

In more recent times disputes between philosophers have tended to become more heated and less illuminating. The egotism of the modern intellectual has left its traces in the personal and abusive character of philosophical controversy. One might cite Schopenhauer's invective against Hegel, or Nietzsche's against D.F. Strauss.

But the first example is also the best: Jean Jacques Rousseau. His quarrel with David Hume tells a tale that has become

dearly familiar. Rousseau, for whom Hume had done much, conceived a paranoid suspicion of his Scotch friend and sought to discredit him. Having published their correspondence to vindicate himself, Hume remarked: "He imagines himself the sole important being in the universe: he fancies all mankind to be in combination against him: his greatest benefactor, as hurting him most, is the chief object of his animosity."

Michael Oakeshott, who died last year aged 88, was a philosopher who spent as little time at conferences as possible. He wrote a splendid essay, *The Voice of Poetry in the Conversation of Mankind*, in which he sought to elucidate the history of human activity and intercourse as the conversation of innumerable voices. The voice of philosophy, he argued, is "unusually conversable", for it alone has no body of knowledge distinct from its activity.

Oakeshott believed that the conversation of mankind was precarious: "For each voice is prone to *superbia*, that is, an exclusive

concern with its own utterance, which may result in its identifying the conversation with itself and its speaking as if it were speaking only to itself. And when this happens barbarism may be observed to have supervened."

Oakeshott would not have been surprised by the acrimony of the present commotion. It stems from the fact that the discussion is not abstract: euthanasia is practised here unofficially, and in the Netherlands it is sanctioned by law. I am among those who believe that officially condoned euthanasia would be a terrifying usurpation by secular authorities of power over life and death, and an abdication by doctors of their Hippocratic oath. But in a country like Britain, where abortion pills may soon be as easily obtainable as aspirin, and where a fetus is an object to be thrown away in a waste disposal machine, euthanasia is not so terrible a prospect that it can be excluded from debate.

Yet to discuss practices so hideous in a conversational tone is not easy. Self-righteousness, indeed, is the norm. It is only in rare exceptions that the frivolous earnestness of the professional moralist is restrained by the serious levity of a Montaigne or an Oakeshott. Even the voice of philosophy is apt to become shrill when public indifference to the dignity of human life is commonplace.

Poll late and poll often

Bernard Levin advises the Irish to vote for opinion pollsters



takes a poll in the week before the voting. The law applies to elections for the Dail (the lower house), to the Seanad (the upper house), to European elections, to referendums and to by-elections. And now read the words of the proposed statute, and tell me whether your blood goes as cold as mine did when I read them:

"Opinion poll" means a systematic enquiry conducted by means of questioning a sample of persons considered to be representative of the population of the State or any part thereof for the purpose of ascertaining the likely opinions of the population of the State as a whole or part thereof on matters relating to any election or referendum including the manner in which the population of the State or part thereof may vote...

You do not have to be Conor Cruise O'Brien to suspect that this odious and undemocratic proposal is some kind of crafty business by Charles Haughey. In recent times, the Irish electorate has instinctively worked out a voting pattern which gives Haughey the victory but without an overall majority: at the beginning of the most recent election campaign, for instance, he was well in the lead, but as polling day came closer, much of his support faded away, leaving him with only a precarious hold on power, a situation heartily welcome to the nation, considering the nature of the man.

But how did the voters manage the complex manoeuvre by which a reined-in Haughey held power only on sufferance? By watching the polls, of course, whence the extraordinary aspect of the planned legislation: polls conducted earlier may be published in the last week of the campaign, but no new ones taken - in other words, the voters may see the results only of out-of-date opinion polls.

It is likely that this wheeze will be declared unconstitutional (the Irish republic has a written constitution); certainly it seems an opportunity, and a good one, for a stand by Mary Robinson, the president. After all, when even the government of Turkey hardly the pattern and exemplar of democracy - in 1981 proposed a ban on the publication of

polls during elections, it was declared unconstitutional (as was the same proposal in democratic Belgium in 1985).

The proponents of this suppression of free speech and the right to listen to it might like to contemplate the company they are in. As far as my research goes, it seems that there are only three countries in the world which have the same practice: Albania, South Africa and Cuba. The first two, however, may not be on the list much longer; as both these tyrannies move into civilisation, they are discarding their tyrannous baggage, and their polling restrictions are likely to be jettisoned early. (The Soviet Union, by the way, has had opinion polling almost as long as Gorbachev has been in the seat of power; it was one of his earliest concessions.)

It is not, I think, an attractive partnership, the Irish republic and Cuba. I turn once more to the indispensable *World Human Rights Guide* originated by Charles Humana, and compare the ratings of these two states: Irish republic, 87 per cent, Cuba 24 per cent. Gentlemen, choose your partners.

Five Gael will oppose the bill; the coalition parties have been craven. The ill-named Progressive Democrats, for instance, who help to make up Fiamma Fail's precarious majority, are at present saying that they will support it; the Labour party has not yet decided.

It will be a close-run thing. For the moment, nothing will happen; the Dail is in recess, and reconvenes in October; the bill is to be debated "in the autumn", which could offer months for minds to be changed. Meanwhile, what Irish democracy is up against may be measured by the remark made by Padraig Flynn, the minister in charge of the bill; he said that here was "unease" about the polls. In fact, so far from the Irish voters being "uneasy", they have robustly recorded their opposition to the proposal by a margin of two to one. In a poll, of course.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

This is a leak. It is not for your eyes. Do not read past this point. I repeat - *over your eyes*.

Good: now I have your full attention. The one sure-fire way of being successfully overheard is to reduce your voice to a conspiratorial whisper. It works in restaurants, it works in newspapers, and it worked magnificently, recently, for Henry McLeish, MP, a shadow minister in Labour's employment team. The story of how he did it, which has... shh... fallen into my hands via an *undisclosed source*, gives us a window into the shadowy world of political news management. Are you sitting comfortably?

If you were permanent secretary in the employment department, and aware that working relations between your civil servants and the newly established, business-led Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs) were running into difficulties, and you wanted to talk to your staff about possible ways of putting this right, what would you do? "There's a potentially embarrassing little story in this, permanent secretary," press advisers murmur. "Better keep it confidential." But you are a modern mandarin, anxious to communicate openly within your department. "Confidential" documents are often leaked anyway, and become the more newsworthy for the fact that they have been suppressed.

You decide to be bold. "Hang the secrecy," you say, "publish it in an 'unclassified note' to all staff. Publish it in our in-house

newspaper. If the press picks it up, at least they can see we're relaxed... Oh - and put it on the agenda for our Tec conference in Birmingham, too."

Now imagine that you are an opposition spokesman, hungry for trouble. News reaches you of the Tec briefing. You look the story up and down. Hm. But let's be honest, is it really news? Bit of a turn-off, all this Tec stuff - I mean, do readers know what Tec are? Now, if there were a leak...

Ah. Here a small accident comes to Mr McLeish's aid. Somewhere between the permanent secretary's desk and Mr McLeish's, a bottle of correction fluid has accidentally tipped on to the permanent secretary's note to his staff. Happily, the fluid has missed the bold heading, Permanent Secretary, and settled into a little patch over the words beneath: "Note to staff", they would have said, if they had not been obliterated. So the copy in Mr McLeish's hands looks like a highly confidential leak.

That took its tone from the shock of revelation. Most of this could have been found in the lead story of the department's own staff newspaper, alongside an article describing the open day of Ilfracombe employment services, with staff dressed in costumes as part of the town's Victorian week celebrations. (This seems to have been overlooked in the press release: perhaps Ilfracombe should count itself lucky not to have had its innocent fun picked up by the *News of the World*.)

The BBC went one better. Radio 4 ran a "crisis of confidence" story in its news bulletins for a whole evening. In this, a "risk" unaccountably opened between the secretary of state and his permanent secretary.

The BBC has (I understand) apologised: we of the press, of course, feel no need to explain or defend what we do. Politicians, aware that politics is a rough old game, will chuckle, or wince, and let it drop. Ministers will be comforted the version of events presented here has had an airing.

And how did that happen? Here is the sting in the tail. Nothing in the account you have just read is remotely confidential or beyond the reach of any researcher. But if I had discovered it for myself, then would it really have excited my interest?

Mastering the humble page

As the Prince of Wales toasts his tenth wedding anniversary today he can look forward to another cause for celebration: the publication of his first book of watercolours in September. The prince has just seen a finished copy of the book for the first time, jacket and all, thanks to an impromptu encounter on a windswept Glasgow railway platform.

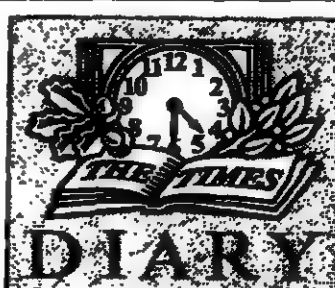
Alighting from a London train earlier this month, the prince was astonished to see a figure waving a book wildly above his head from the other side of the platform. The royal caravan moved on, diplomatically ignoring the kerfuffle, until the prince saw the title of the book: *His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's Watercolours*.

The prince visibly shook with disbelief. How had a stranger laid his hands on a copy before the Prince of Wales himself had clapped eyes on his cherished project? The man was ushered

forward to explain. He was, he said, a humble flunkey from Little Brown, the prince's American publishers, who was taking sample



copies to show booksellers in Scotland.



Relieved, the prince fingered the pages of his treasured 70-odd watercolours, with accompanying texts. He admired the jacket, which reproduces his work of a view across a loch, and scanned the foreword by his grandmother. She last wrote one for a book of poems entitled *Love is my Meaning* by Lady Elizabeth Basset, her lady-in-waiting in the Sixties, Clarence House says. "It might seem a long time ago, but everything is relative when you are 91."

Hard times, indeed, for design firms when all they can find to sell their staff. Two partners of Total Re-Think, the London-based company, are offering themselves as slaves for the day as first prize in a raffle designed to pay off bad debts of £4,000. "I will do nothing indecent or illegal," says Ken D'Cruz, one of the duo giving a new meaning to the phrase *slave labour*.

Booked elsewhere

John Mortimer makes no secret of the fact that his school days at Harrow were not his happiest. He has never returned to the school in an official capacity. It is a double snub, then, that Mortimer will perform a collection of his writing and favourite poetry from Auden, Byron and Browning, entitled *Miscellany*, at the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, in September.

Mortimer will tread the boards with actresses Jean Marsh and Joanna David. The money raised will go towards a new set of blades for the school's boat club and books for a school next to his home in Hambleden Valley, Bucks. The thoughtful author will undoubtedly slip in a few copies of *Rumpole* and *Summer's Lease* for the teachers.

Write-on

Being asked to initial 1,200 documents from the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty negotiations in Geneva. Facing each other across a long table under crystal chandeliers Linton F. Brooks (United States) and Yuri Nazarkin (Soviet Union) are spending the day initialing, ball-point pens in hand.

The pens have already become prized mementoes, especially the US and Soviet flags on them. No one knows exactly how long the marathon to sign the 1,200 pages, produced by two years of negotiation, will take, nor who will finish first.

While neither of the duo is ambidextrous, diplomats point out that Nazarkin may be at an advantage. A keen tennis player, his wrist is thought to be in better trim. Fortunately for them, when Bush and Gorbachev meet in Moscow to ratify the treaty later this week, they will asked for a single clinching signature.

News flash

For perhaps the first time in a long and celebrated career, Walter Cronkite, the now retired American television news anchorman, has been caught with his trousers down. Prominent in the American sail training movement, Cronkite was a guest at the Cutty Sark Tall Ships Races stopover in Belfast last week. Arriving at Pollock Dock on

Another Zulu war?

Blood is thinner than water in South Africa, it seems. Relations between the African National Congress and Inkatha, already at breaking point over the revelations of a government slush fund, will not be improved by the election of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's cousin, Prince Mswayizini Zulu, to the ANC executive. Zulus are bitter rivals.

Mswayizini was regent to the present king, Goodwill Zwelithini, who was crowned in 1972 when still a schoolboy. During his regency, Mswayizini excluded Buthelezi from royal council meetings. Buthelezi never got over the slight, but gained some revenge during consultations with Pretoria on the KwaZulu constitution. While Mswayizini wanted full executive powers for the king, Buthelezi successfully argued that the monarch should not have a political role.

Ominously for Mswayizini, though, he was elected to the ANC in place of Chief Mkhumbuzi Maphumulo, another Zulu prince, whom Buthelezi attacked for attempting to involve the king in politics. Maphumulo was murdered by forces unknown earlier this year.



BALKAN ANSWERS

Only two years have passed since Eastern Europe's communist states were in the habit of threatening each other with military invasion. Even now, even in the new democracies, a nervousness must surround regions across which history has scattered ethnic groups with little regard for political boundaries. And for two such groups, the Slovenes and the Croats, the past month has seen all the old terrors return.

The Yugoslav federal army, the strongest in the Balkans, having admitted a sort of defeat in Slovenia, has turned its attention to Croatia. In the past week, more than 80 people have been killed in political violence in Croatia, after 64 had died in Slovenia over the past month. By all accounts, the Yugoslav army is now acting as the military arm of the Serbian state. If a Serb-dominated Yugoslavia is no longer to exist, then a secure Greater Serbia is the goal.

The blood feud of Serbs and Croats, which dates back to the second world war, meant that Serbia's rulers were more likely to bolster their authority by invoking the old enemy, Croatia, rather than waste time and bullets on the Slovenes. The combat-readiness of the Slovene militia helped to persuade the Serbian government of Slobodan Milosevic, working in tandem with the general staff of the federal army, that Slovenia could not be held.

Federal army units, run overwhelmingly by Serbian officers, have been retreating from Slovenia and are now mostly in Croatia. The Serbian government and opposition are united in their determination to keep Croatia within the Serb orbit. They have turned parts of districts such as Krajina and Banja into no-go areas for Croat police, and have driven civilians out of their villages, hoping to provoke incidents to justify the introduction of martial law.

Croats draw parallels between their own plight, with 600,000 Serbs living within their borders, and Czechoslovakia in 1938, when the grievances of the Sudeten Germans were used by Hitler as a pretext for annexation. The Croats are worse off than the Czechs, since the opposing army is already inside their borders. Moreover, there is nothing they could offer to the Serbian minority

which would satisfy Belgrade. The Croatian constitution already guarantees minority rights to the Serbs.

Chancellor Kohl last week met President Mitterrand, the latter fearing that German influence might be extended in Slovenia and Croatia. Any disagreement on EC policy towards Yugoslavia was postponed on the basis that recognition for Slovenia and Croatia should await the outcome of events. The problem is that this merely awaits the outcome of civil war. Slovenia, having fought an albeit brief skirmish, is now reasonably assured of diplomatic recognition. A similar conflict in Croatia will be anything but brief or a skirmish.

The case for non-intervention in the internal affairs of foreign states is always strong. The ethnic differences within the existing boundaries of Eastern Europe suggest extreme caution. But that does not necessarily mean doing nothing at all. A civil war in Yugoslavia would serve no European interest. It could spread among ethnic minorities elsewhere in the East, and lead to destabilising mass migrations.

The EC did play some part in inducing Belgrade to back off in Slovenia. EC foreign ministers are meeting today to discuss the conflict and must express similar concern. Recognition of dissident sub-divisions of states is not a normally appropriate form of leverage, though it has been widely practised before. But the EC could certainly set out what it considers to be the minimal terms on which it will continue to do business, both political and economic, with Belgrade. It could also formalise the informal links it has with Slovenia and Croatia.

The Council of Ministers might also insist that the observers who are monitoring the ceasefire in Slovenia should be deployed in Croatia too. They should stress that Slovenia will not be treated as a special case, but that Croatia too will have its claims for recognition considered in due course. Nobody has an interest in states collapsing into chaos and civil war, or in the resumed fragmentation of the Balkans into warring tribes. But the Serbs are seeking to divide and rule Croatia. The EC should use what influence it has to stop them.

THE BIRTH DEARTH

Most Britons see changes in the birth rate as an interesting social trend, but not the stuff of politics. In continental Europe, "family" policy is taken more seriously by right and left alike. These governments may be perturbed by a report published today by the Family Policy Studies Centre which shows that birth rates in European Community countries have fallen from an average of 2.6 children per woman 30 years ago to 1.6 now. Need they be?

States have often turned family policy into population policy, sometimes with sinister results. The Nazis wanted Aryan supremacy and not content with encouraging the "right" people to have more babies hastened the goal by eliminating many of the rest. Indira Gandhi supported sterilisation in the belief that fewer children meant less poverty. Israelis are delighted to ship in Jews from other countries partly because they are worried that otherwise they will be outnumbered by Arabs. Even France, which actively encourages large families by doubling benefit for the third and subsequent child and providing nurseries for small children, does so partly through a sense of endangered national pride.

Other countries fear that if their birth rate is not high enough for their population level to be maintained (as is the case in all EC countries apart from Ireland), old people will become an increasing burden on those in work. This is a reasonable worry. Yet evidence suggests that economic growth, labour-saving technology and continued immigration of working-age people will help support the old. As those in their sixties remain healthier, fixed retirement ages of 60 and 65 will look increasingly anachronistic. The old themselves will be working.

Of greater concern is the revelation that Western couples are not having as many children as they would ideally like. The latest Eurobarometer survey of EC adults

finds that the ideal family size averages 2.1 children, while the average fertility rate is only 1.6. Most people cite uncertain economic prospects, the availability of suitable housing and the difficulty of combining work and childcare as the most important factors influencing family size.

In poor countries, people need large numbers of children to help work the land and to support them when they are frail. In rich countries, the reverse pressure operates. People buy food from supermarkets and rely on pensions in old age. The cost of children has become so great that the best route to prosperity is fewer children.

Western economies are geared to two-earner families. At a time when their mothers and grandmothers started having children, many women now are starting their careers. They delay having children. Once embarked on a career, which they may enjoy and find personally and financially rewarding, the idea of a large family is less appealing. The logistics of organising care for more than two children can seem awesome.

Sweden, which has adopted many policies that help women to combine childbearing with work — long parental leave, good childcare facilities, generous family benefits — has seen its fertility rate rise from 1.6 in 1983 to 2.1 now. British politicians have followed a policy that could charitably be described as benign neglect. They are rightly unwilling to intrude on what is perhaps the most private decision that adults take. But agnosticism about birth rates need not mean inaction. Politicians should not dictate family size. But they can try to ensure that people can make a free choice about how many children to have. Ideally, that choice should be unhindered by obstacles that a sensitive use of the tax system and local social services can help remove.

A PRISONER OF THE LEFT

The hard men of Walton are accustomed to jail barons, but never (if the stories leaked out are true) was there a Mr Big to compete with Prisoner PV3695, alias Terry Fields MP, who has been banged up for non-payment of the poll tax. Already he enjoys power and popularity that have conspicuously eluded his Militant colleagues outside. His prisoners' union is credited with improving the food. The prison officers, who know about militant unionism, respect him. At night the cells reverberate to cries of "Terry Fields for governor." Since Fields may shortly be unemployed, courtesy of the Labour party's intention to expel him, he might enjoy this moment of uncalled-for popularity.

For the rest of us, the news that Fields is thriving is less cheering. A certain Schadenfreude has always been offered by the sight of the rich, famous and powerful stuck behind bars. Prison is bad enough for the run-of-the-mill crooks and knaves. How much worse it must be for those accustomed to ease and luxury: where the liberty lost is the liberty to go to Ascot or the opera; where prison mugs and mugs of char replace caviar and fine vintage; where three men sleep without a lavatory in a space which outside would scarcely be large enough to hold their lavatory. Where the descent is steepest, there society's retribution bites most sharply.

This image has possibly been the product of too much reading of Wilde's *Reading*

Gaol. Evelyn Waugh in *Decline and Fall* suggested that "anyone who has been to an English public school will always feel comparatively at home in prison." But most non-violent, middle-class prisoners, notably those convicted in the recent Guinness trial, have been sent to open prison, where conditions would probably seem disorientingly relaxed to the average public school boy.

Fields is not in an open prison but, by choice, in Walton, which makes his achievement the more remarkable. How can he so soon achieve a rapport with the inmates that the officers and governor have found notoriously hard? Could it be that he has at last found his métier?

The government has made much of its desire to see the prison service privatised. The most successful form of privatisation has often been that of a management buy-out. Militant might take a leaf from the same book and propose an inmate buy-out. Walton could be turned over to a co-operative of its prisoners, subject to the appropriate inspection and oversight. So long as Fields refuses to pay his poll tax, the courts could refuse to let him out, leaving him free to continue this social experiment. The nation will eventually wish to honour the inventor of this novel penal system, this Bentham of our age. Arise, Baron Fields of Walton.

Dangers of appeasement with USSR Clergy marriages under pressure

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

From Baroness Park of Monmouth
Sir, In our current relations with the USSR, we are in danger, not for the first time, of confusing sympathy for a people with support for the very regime that many of them wish to end and would like us to reject. If President Gorbachev sincerely intends to create a free democracy, the best way we can help him and his people is to refuse absolutely to condone the repression and the tyranny which continue to flourish under his government.

There has been, in the last two years, well attested and repeated violent repression in the Baltic states, in Georgia, in Armenia and Azerbaijan, and in Nagorno-Karabakh, some of it observed as recently as this month by members of the House of Lords (report, July 18).

The "Omon" and "Spetsnaz" special troops, equipped by the Ministry of the Interior, are allowed by Mr Gorbachev and by his government to kill, beat and burn, and as usual it is the victims who are accused of provoking the trouble. The KGB flourishes (as you reported on July 22, Mr Yeitsin has now set up his own KGB in the Russian republic), the defence budget is larger, not smaller.

Mr Gorbachev and his regime need us, not the other way round.

Forum for the past

From the President of the Council for British Archaeology

Sir, The protagonists on both sides of the controversy over the future of London's archaeological services (letters, July 8, 11, 18) have a case to answer. It is surely inconsistent for English Heritage to exercise both a national role as adviser to the Department of the Environment and a local role as adviser to local authorities; but this is their response to a situation in which the Museum of London could be perceived as being both the undertaker of a project and judge of its validity.

Yet it is possible for such organisations to keep distinct their advice from their operations. This is an option that the London boroughs should now examine.

In exercises aimed at cost efficiency and "administrative improvement" the reasons why archaeology planning evaluations are made, and the preservation or excavation of sites is initiated, have

been pushed into the background. Last year English Heritage canvassed opinion in order to produce a strategy document "Developing Frameworks", but the extent of its intended influence and utility, and whether it is part of a continuing research strategy, are unclear. And because English Heritage in English is of limited scope, there is archaeology in Scotland and Wales, as well as a neglected resource around our coasts.

There will always be problems that have to be solved in order to advance the understanding of our past. That is why we need a way of constantly revising and updating our agenda as new evidence comes to hand. The mechanism for this must be a detached forum which is not deeply involved in administrative struggles over planning and projects. Such a forum should not be too difficult to achieve.

Yours sincerely,
ROSEMARY CRAMP, President,
Council for British Archaeology,
The King's Manor, York.

From Mrs Sally A. Stracey
Sir, I was dismayed by Dr Adrian Rogers's claim (July 25) that "evidence shows" a lower educational performance, intellectual development and school achievement among children from one-parent families than among those of married partners.

I have just left Sheffield University with a degree in mechanical engineering. I, my two brothers and sister are not miserable, poor or deprived. We are all happy, well-adjusted and highly-qualified people. We were, however, deserted by our father in 1964. When my parents finally divorced in 1976 my mother told me not to mention it.

She claimed that teachers, social workers and other "experts" would leap to conclusions about me, irrespective of my academic performance, behaviour or personality.

Dr Rogers's sweeping statements show her to have been right.

Yours faithfully,
SALLY A. STRACEY,
38 Andover Street,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire.

From Mrs Janet Storrie
Sir, Councillor Higgins (July 25) denies that the proposed bowling arena "remotely resembles" a superstore "either in aspect or size". The actual dimensions of the building are 66.7m long and 66.7m deep (or 2,965sq m within external walls, not including verandahs).

Local planning documents assess the size of a superstore as a building over 2,300sq m. Could it be that councillors do not realise the size of the building they are voting for?

Yours faithfully,
JANET STORRIE,
48 Heath Terrace,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire,
July 25.

One-parent families

From Mrs Sally A. Stracey
Sir, I was dismayed by Dr Adrian Rogers's claim (July 25) that "evidence shows" a lower educational performance, intellectual development and school achievement among children from one-parent families than among those of married partners.

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Yours faithfully,
SALLY A. STRACEY,
38 Andover Street,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire.

Citizens' mails

From the Director General of International Express Carriers Conference

Sir, The citizen's charter proposes the most radical review of mail services since Rowland Hill. Opening delivery services to market forces is not just a shift in the division of a static commercial cake between public and private operators. It will create combinations as well as confrontations between post office and carrier companies and provide a sound basis for bringing freedom to European and international mail services.

The EC Commission has been busy for many months on its green paper on postal policy. Early drafts, produced mainly by postal experts, aim for new Community-wide

monopoly, with little reduction of existing national controls. In another part of the Berlaymont forest, however, the vice-president, Sir Leon Brittan, boldly asserted that "Community cross-border mail should be consistent with the need for free and competitive circulation of goods and services" and that "even greater scope" should be given "for private operators to provide innovative services and improve quality for the customer".

British support in the Council of Ministers for citizen's charter principles could be crucial in tilting this balance between Sir Leon's competitive vigour and the postal lobbies' instinctive protectionism.

Yours etc.,
JOHN RAVEN, Director General,
International Express Carriers Conference,
26 Rue du Trône, 1050 Brussels.

Synod and Nestlé

From the Director of Christian Aid
Sir, Since the letter from the chairman and managing director of Nestlé appeared in your columns (July 18), he has written to all Church of England clergy urging them to work for the reversal of last week's General Synod vote on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes in developing countries.

He alleges that second thoughts on the part of the churches in the US led to the dropping of the previous Nestlé boycott in 1984.

However, according to the then president of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, this explanation is disingenuous at best. The boycott was terminated because Nestlé very gradually, and most grudgingly, began to pull its practices into line with the World Health Organisation code. Unfortunately, we found Nestlé's promises far in excess of changes in practice.

Christian Aid has seen clearly how breast-milk substitutes can cause diarrhoeal diseases among Third World children. Unicef estimates that in developing countries a

boy is dying every 15 seconds from diarrhoea. We are negotiating from strength and that is the only negotiating posture that communist establishments understand and respect.

It will of course be claimed that to say "stop the repression" is to intervene in the internal affairs of a sovereign country. Yesterday's agreement between the Union and some, but not all republics (report, July 25), quite apart from the special status of the Baltic states, tends to invalidate this.

The Baltic, the Ukrainians, the Georgians and probably many Russians would applaud if we stood firm and refused to attend the next Helsinki Round in Moscow while such flagrant violations of human rights continue. To attend is to send a very dangerous signal for appeasement which can only encourage our enemies and dishearten our friends.

To refuse to attend is to make it clear that we mean what we say, and to indicate that we are under no obligation to give aid and comfort, or even tacit support, to the enemies of our friends. The Group of Seven did not weaken with Gorbachev over the embargo on technical and strategic exports: it should not do so over human rights.

Yours sincerely,
PARK OF MONMOUTH,
House of Lords.

From the Reverend T. G. Leary
Sir, The report, "Why poor clergy need marriage guidance" (July 19), is an oversimplified view of complex issues that are facing contemporary clergy couples.

It is not true that "so many clergy marriages are breaking down"; 37 per cent of marriages in society as a whole are breaking down. This means four out of ten marriages are ending in divorce. The proportion within clergy couples is much lower than this, although clergy couples are not impervious to the trends in the wider society. The actual number of breakdowns is low although numbers are increasing.

Although clergy couples do share the problems of all married people, there are issues they face, and strengths and resources they have, which are peculiar to them. Our experience at the Clergy Marriage Consultation Service at the Westminster Pastoral Foundation, confirmed by these recent research findings, is that contemporary clergy couples face a cluster of pressures of which poverty is just one. Our research confirms the findings of the survey in the Canterbury diocese that clergy with children do face financial hardship if they are solely relying on the clergy stipend.

However, the deeper issue is the historic and contemporary ambivalence towards having married clergy. Most parishes when asked to state a preference for a married priest but then have mixed feelings when he/she spends time on family matters or if the clergy family life style does not conform to existing expectations. Lack of financial provision for married clergy is only one symptom of this ambivalence.

Clergy couples like all married couples are influenced by the sociological trends in society that have threatened the institution of marriage. They are also the public

representatives of another institution namely, the Church, which is struggling to maintain a high doctrine of marriage as an important stabilising unit in society in Britain today. This in itself produces both internal and external pressures for clergy couples.

Bearing in mind the nature of the life and work of clergy couples, it is important that those who offer counselling should be specially trained.

Yours sincerely,
TOM LEARY,
St Barnabas Vicarage,
37 St Barnabas Road,
Sutton, Surrey,
July 20.

From Mr F. J. Weddell
Sir, Ruth Gledhill's account makes one appreciate the insistence of the Catholic Church that its priests remain celibate, as Christ was. When a priest is married there is the potential for conflict between his duty to his family and to his flock, where the latter does not always receive the priority it deserves. If the clergy cannot set a good example in marital affairs who can censure the young for eschewing marriage altogether?

The average stipend of £12,000 must equal, at least, the national average wage. Is there not an argument for stipends to equal rather the lower quartile in order to associate the clergy more closely with those millions less well-off than themselves?

The reality may be that "they have the same problems as anyone else" but "because they are who they are" they should be better able to resolve them.

Yours faithfully,
F. J. WEDDELL,
Ulysses, 25 Southampton Hill,
Titchfield, Hampshire,
July 22.

Spa bowling arena

From the Leader of Warwick District Council
Sir, Perhaps I could correct a few misconceptions your correspondents appear to hold about Royal Leamington Spa.

Norman Paining (July 25) says we are seeking to remove major landmarks such as the town hall, the boys' school and the pump rooms. When I left the town hall last night, it was still there, and I did not see a demolition contractor waiting outside. I know of no plan to tear down major schools and it is Father Time who is wearing down the pump rooms not this council.

Mr Ron Newby (July 26) says "we are using every wheeze possible to treat this magnificent legacy as a building site". May I suggest that your readers come and try to find this "building site". They won't.

Our record has been one of a council who have successfully over the years put delightful indoor facilities into the pleasant settings of our parks. We do not understand why visitors to our indoor facilities should not have the benefit and be attracted by a visit to those parks.

We have been successful as shown by the many visitors to our parks and the record shows that at no time have we disregarded or removed any major historic landmarks but have in fact regenerated them. We need to recall that "the only means of conservation is innovation".

Yours sincerely,
T. A. DALTON, Leader,
Warwick District Council,
Town Hall,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire,
July 25.

From Mrs Janet Storrie
Sir, Councillor Higgins (July 25) denies that the proposed bowling arena "remotely resembles" a superstore "either in aspect or size". The actual dimensions of the building are 66.7m long and 66.7m deep (or 2,965sq m within external walls, not including verandahs).

Local planning documents assess the size of a superstore as a building over 2,300sq m. Could it be that councillors do not realise the size of the building they are voting for?

Yours faithfully,
JANET STORRIE,
48 Heath Terrace,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire,
July 25.

Arms register

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
Sir, The prime minister's call for the establishment of an international register of arms transfers is timely. It will take time to work out the details of what precise information should be registered.

Meanwhile a more limited exercise could be undertaken. In my report, "Guns for Antigua", submitted to the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda last November I recommended an international register of end-user certificates, the certificates given invariably by state purchasing arms and ammunition in which they undertake not to pass on the weaponry to any third party. If such a register had existed in 1989 it is highly likely that Israeli arms and ammunition, ostensibly sold to the government of Antigua and Barbuda, would not have ended up in the hands of one of the Colombian drug barons.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
2 Ripplevale Grove, NI.

Flying the flag

From Mr Maurice Trowbridge
Sir, The assertion in your "flagging" diary item (July 18) that Scottish secretary Ian Lang "caused consternation" by flying Air France to Strasbourg last week will have intrigued UK members of the European Parliament, who regularly make the trip.

By what other carrier are they — and ministers — expected to fly there? Strasbourg is a provincial city with an airport which shares its runways with the French air force. The only airline operating that route from London is Air France.

Official "fly-British" guidelines there may be but sometimes practicality has to take precedence.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. TROWBRIDGE
(Deputy Head),
UK Information Office,
European Parliament,
2 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.

From Mrs Maurice Trowbridge
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Yours faithfully,
M. J. TROWBRIDGE
(Deputy Head),
UK Information Office,
European Parliament,
2 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.

Yugoslavia's plight

From the Marquess of Tweeddale
Sir, Whether it was right (as per Sir Fitzroy Maclean: letter, July 24) or wrong (as per Mr Lees, July 17) for the government to support the communism of Tito rather than the (more, or less?) Serbian nationalism of Mihailovic during the second world war, it is surely wrong for the government to support — even tacitly — the communism and (blatantly and aggressively) Serbian nationalism of Milosevic now. Our true friends in Yugoslavia deserve better.

Yours faithfully,
TWEEDDALE,
House of Lords.

Shorter working week

From Mr John Polk
Sir, My uncle and several friends were members of a Monday lunch club in Wall Street during the 1960s where they would meet to celebrate that the worst part of the week was over and they could now look forward to the weekend (letter, July 22).

Yours faithfully,
JOHN POLK,
Fenny Compton Lodge,
Fenny Compton, Warwickshire.

From Mr W. G. McPherson

Sir, Maybe it would be better for the country if Parliament met only on a Friday and took the rest of the week off.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. MCPHERSON,
37 Granary Street,
Huntly, Aberdeenshire.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 27: The Prince Edward this evening took the Salute at the final performance of The Royal Tournament 1991 at Fairs Court, London.

July 28: Mr John Taylor was received by The Queen at Windsor Castle, when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

Mr Norman Lawrence and Mr Albert Weston were also received by The Queen at Windsor Castle, when Her Majesty decorated them with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, attended His Royal Highness's 70th Birthday Celebrations The

Party in the Park in the Home Park, Windsor Castle.

The Prince Edward, Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, today visited The Duke of Edinburgh's 70th Birthday Celebrations 'The Party in the Park' in the Home Park, Windsor Castle.

KENSINGTON PALACE

July 28: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Bobath Centre was represented by Mrs Euan McCordopole at a celebration for the lives of Dr and Mrs Karl Bobath at the Music Hall, Guildhall School of Music, Barbican, London EC2.

The Prince and Princess of Wales celebrate the 10th anniversary of their marriage today.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Alexis Charles de Tocqueville, historian, Paris, 1803; Benito Mussolini, Fascist leader, Italy, 1883.

DEATHS: Thomas Stucley, adventurer, killed at the battle of Alcazar, 1578; William Wilberforce, London, 1833; Robert Schumann, composer, Bonn, 1856; Vincent Van Gogh, painter, committed suicide, Auvers-sur-Oise, 1890; Umberto I, king of Italy 1878-1900, assassinated, Monza, 1900; Edward Gordon Craig, theatre designer and producer, Venice, France, 1906.

1966, Sir John Barbirolli, conductor, 1970.

John Michael Jerwood, MC

A service in celebration of the life of the late John Jerwood will be held in the Chapel, Oakham School, Oakham, Leicestershire, at 3.00 pm on Tuesday, September 3, 1991. Persons wishing to attend the service are invited to notify their intention to the Clerk to the Trustees, Oakham School, Oakham, Leicestershire, LE15 6DT. Telephone 0572 722487.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.T. Barker and Miss L.D. Baker. The engagement is announced between James, only son of Mr and Mrs Richard Barker, of Hutton Rudby, North Yorkshire, and Lindsey, only daughter of Dr and Mrs H. Kenneth Baker, of Russell's Water, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr S.J.K. Barrett and Miss L.D. Ashbee. The engagement is announced between Simon James Knevet, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E.K. Barrett, of Seaford, Norfolk, and Lucy Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.D. Ashbee, of Wimblesdon, London.

Mr R.W. Bourne-Arton and Miss D.E. Benson. The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Bourne-Arton, of Tadfield Lodge, Ripon, and Daphne, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Benson, of Chapel Hill, Bedale.

Mr C.J. Butcher and Miss F.M. Gaskin. The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr Anthony Butcher, QC, of Hindhead, Surrey, and of the late Mrs Butcher, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs Maxwell Gaskin, of Abernethy, Roxburghshire.

Mr J.K. Harris and Dr H.M. Roberts. The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Dr and Mrs K. Harris, of Tiverton, Devon, and Hilary, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.P.R. Roberts, of Herongate, Essex.

Sub-Lieutenant P. Knight and Miss C.L. Lamb. The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Dr Peter Knight, of Amarillo, Texas, and Mrs Suzanne Knight, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Caroline, younger daughter of the Hon Kenneth and Mrs Lamb, of South Kensington, London, SW7.

Mr M.A. Lynch and Miss N. Lee. The engagement is announced between Mark, fourth son of the late Mr D.M. Lynch and of Mrs E.R. Lynch, of Colchester, Essex, and Nicola, third daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Lee, of Grafton, West Sussex.

Mr G.A. Powell and Miss P.A. Murphy. Mr A.G. Murphy, FRCS, DO, JP, and Mrs J.A. Murphy, of Oakfield Lodge, Huddersfield, are pleased to announce the engagement of their youngest daughter Philippa Anne to Gary Alan, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Powell, of Eastham, Wirral.

Marriages

Mr B.H. Fraser and the Hon Lady Roper-Curzon. The marriage took place on Saturday in Salisbury Cathedral between Mr Benjamin Fraser, son of the late Sir Hugh Fraser, MP, and of Lady Antonia Plater, and the Hon Lady Roper-Curzon, daughter of Lord and Lady Teynham. Canon Philip Roberts officiated. The Bishop of Aberdeen preached the homily and the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio pronounced the blessing.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by the Hon Alois Roper-Curzon, the Hon Benjamin Roper-Curzon, Harry Roper-Curzon, Poppy Curzon, Doune Murphy, Hermione Gibbs, Jack Fraser, Stella Powell-Jones, Eloise Fraser and Hermione Pakenham. Mr Damian Fraser was best man.

A reception was held at Pylewell Park, Lymington, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr T. Matthews and the Hon Joan Johnstone. A service of blessing was held on Saturday at St Peter's, Hackney, Scarborough, after the marriage of Mr Timothy Matthews, youngest son of Canon and Mrs John Matthews, to the Hon Joan Johnstone, daughter of Lord and Lady Derwent. The Bishop of Hull, Canon Matthews and the Rev Wilfred Curtis officiated.

Professor Sir Hans Kornberg and Ma D. Haber. The marriage took place yesterday at Christ's College, Cambridge, between Professor Sir Hans Kornberg and his daughter, daughter of Mr and Mrs William B. Haber, of Los Angeles. Rabbi S. Kunitz officiated.

Mr S. Bishop and Miss K.A. Storey. The marriage took place on Saturday last at the Church of St Mary, Little Parndon, Harlow, Essex, of Miss Karen Ann Storey, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Bishop, and Mr Steven Bishop, son of Mr and Mrs L.

Mr G. Chalmers and Miss N.J. Holford. The marriage took place on July 25, in St Lucia, of Mr Gavin Chalmers, son of Mr and Mrs James Chalmers, of Westbury-sub-Mendip, and Miss Nicola Holford, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Holford, of Brookmans Park.

Prince Kadir Güney and Miss S. Wentworth-Stanley. The marriage took place on Friday, July 26, 1991, at St Mary's Church, Braughing, Hertfordshire, of Prince Kadir Güney, eldest son of Prince Azam Khan, and Princess Sylvia Güney, and Miss Sarah Wentworth-Stanley, elder daughter of Major O.M. Wentworth-Stanley and Mrs P.M. Wentworth-Stanley.

Mr S.G. Freeman and Miss A.E. Doranville De. The marriage took place on Friday, July 26, 1991, in Malvern, Worcestershire, of Anne Dornonville De La Cour and Simon Freeman.

Mr J.R. Lewis and Miss C.N. Leigh. The marriage took place on Saturday, July 27, at the Church of Holy Trinity, Littlebury, of Mr James Lewis, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ian Lewis, of Summingdale, Berkshire, and Miss Caroline Leigh, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Leigh, of Wendens Ambo, Essex.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr R.J. Park and Miss A.R. Mizen. The marriage took place on Saturday, July 27, at Lincoln's Inn Chapel, London, between Mr Benjamin Park, elder son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Park, of Thame, Oxfordshire, and Miss Elizabeth Mizen, only child of Mr and Mrs Peter Mizen, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.

The Rev Felix Byrre, preacher to the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, officiated.

Mr A.N. Patel and Miss B.C. Patel. The marriage took place on Sunday, July 28, at Cinatra's, Croydon, between Mr Anil Narharibhai Patel, son of Mr and Mrs Narharibhai Patel, of Nadiad and Southall, and Miss Bhavini Chandubhai Patel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Chandubhai Patel, of Vaso and Thornton Heath.

The honeymoon will be spent in Jamaica.

Mr R.J.A. Robertson-Macdonald and Miss K.T. Barclay. The marriage took place in Chelsea on Friday, July 26, 1991, between Mr Jamie Robertson-Macdonald, elder son of the late Colonel Roddy Robertson-Macdonald and of Mrs Daphne Robertson-Macdonald, of Sheffield, Hampshire, and Miss Karen Barclay, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Barclay, of Menzies, Kenya.

A reception will take place for which there will be notification.

Mr P.J.L. Stratford and Miss C.S. Bayley. The marriage took place on Saturday, at Montford Church, Montford Bridge, Shropshire, of Mr Patrick Stratford, elder son of Mr Peter Stratford and Mrs Kerstin Halsey, to Miss Caroline Bayley, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Bayley.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Maria Bayley and Katie Barty. Mr Jonathan Elliot was best man.

A reception was held at the bride's home and the honeymoon will be spent in Italy.

OBITUARIES

LAZAR KAGANOVICH

Lazar Kaganovich, a devoted henchman of Josef Stalin, died on July 25 aged 98. He was born on November 22, 1893.

LAZAR Kaganovich was an old Bolshevik of working-class Jewish origins who became one of the most efficient and most ruthless of Stalin's lieutenants. He presided over the dictator's forced collectivisation in the 1930s that killed millions. Kaganovich was also the political patron of Nikita Khrushchev, though their relations soured in the post-war era and he was a member of the so-called "anti-party" group which tried to depose Khrushchev from office in 1957. This led to Kaganovich's own political demise and during the last 34 years of his long life he lived in relative obscurity.

Lazar Moisevich Kaganovich was born into a poor Jewish family in the village of Kabana (which for a time was renamed Kaganovich) in the Kiev region. At the age of 14 he found employment as a tannery worker in Kiev factories and at the age of 18 he joined the Bolshevik party and soon became an active organiser and agitator among the industrial workers. He was an instigator of a number of strikes in the Kiev area and, as a member of the Kiev Committee of Bolsheviks, he organised a protest against the war, for which he was arrested and exiled in 1915, though he subsequently escaped and returned illegally to Kiev to resume party work.

During the next two years Kaganovich engaged in Bolshevik party work in different towns and under different pseudonyms. Most of his political activities were directed against the continuation of the war, but, despite being dismissed from employment on a number of occasions, he extended his influence among the Bolsheviks, becoming a leading member of the Yuzovka committee of the party. In June 1917 Kaganovich was sent as a delegate to the All Russian Conference of Bolshevik Party Military Organisations, which he was elected to the bureau of this organisation, which was attached to the Central Committee of the party. Before long he was arrested by the Provisional Government headed by Alexander Kerensky, but escaped and travelled to Gomel in Belorussia where, from September 1917, he was at the head of the regional committee of the Bolshevik party. Kaganovich was an active organiser of propaganda among Russian troops at the front. During the days



of the October 1917 revolution, he was largely responsible for the disbanding of Cossack forces and of the Georgievsky cavalry who were on their way to Petrograd to attempt to suppress the revolution. Kaganovich's political rise following the revolution was swift.

During the civil war he was for a time an active commander in the Red Army on the Voronezh sector of the southern front, but he soon returned to political work, first in the Voronezh region and then in Central Asia where his task was to carry through the Bolshevik policy of centralisation against the opposition of local nationalists. In 1921 he returned to Moscow where he held the post of political organiser in the All-Union Council of Trade Unions. After further service in the Turkestan bureau of the party Central Committee, he was elected to candidate membership of the Central Committee in Moscow in 1923 and to full membership in

1924. From 1925 until 1928 Kaganovich headed the Ukrainian Communist Party where his tasks were to deal with Ukrainian nationalist and Trotskyist opponents of the Stalin line and to raise the industrial and agricultural level of the Ukraine. In 1926 he became a candidate member of the Politburo, in 1928 (on his return from the Ukraine to Moscow) a secretary of the Central Committee, and in 1930 he achieved full membership of the Politburo. Kaganovich's prodigious energy, organisational abilities and loyalty to Stalin meant that many tasks were thrust upon him concurrently.

From 1930 to 1935 he headed the Moscow party organisation and was the originator of a general plan of reconstruction for the Moscow region. It was also under his leadership that the construction of the Moscow underground railway system (which, for a time, bore his name) was begun. He was simulta-

neously head of the agricultural section of the party and, as such, in charge of the collectivisation of agriculture which was carried out brutally between 1929 and 1934.

Kaganovich conducted the party purge of 1933-34 and in 1934 became chairman of the Commission of Party Control which carried with it disciplinary responsibilities. In the second half of the 1930s he was successively People's Commissar for Communications (in which post he greatly improved the performance of the Soviet railway system), Commissar for Heavy Industry and Commissar for the Fuel Industry and Oil Industry. In 1941 he became a member of the state defence committee and a high political officer in the Caucasus.

In the final stages of the war, when the western part of the Soviet Union was left in chaos and destruction by the fleeing German invaders, Kaganovich was again called upon to take control of the Soviet railways. In 1946-47 he was put in charge of the building materials industry.

Stalin used Kaganovich as a "trouble shooter". Whenever things were going wrong, and required vigorous action to put them right, Kaganovich was the person Stalin most often turned to. One such assignment led to friction between Kaganovich and Nikita Khrushchev which ten years later was to play its part in ending Kaganovich's political career.

Khrushchev had been a protégé of Kaganovich when the latter was in charge, first, of the Ukrainian party organisation and then the Moscow party organisation during the first 20 years of Communist rule of the Soviet Union, but by the wartime and post-war period Khrushchev had become an important party leader in his own right - a member of the Politburo and from 1938 first secretary of the Ukrainian party organisation. In the immediate post-war period the Ukraine was in a devastated condition; there was severe famine and, even as Khrushchev reported in his memoirs, cannibalism.

Khrushchev was not only party first secretary but also the chairman of the Council of Ministers in the Ukraine. In March 1947 Stalin decided that he needed "help" to sort out the problems of the Ukraine and that Kaganovich should be sent to assist him. Khrushchev had to relinquish the more important of his two posts and hand over the Ukrainian party first secretaryship to Kaganovich who had last held that office in the late 1920s. Khrushchev was at this time fighting for his political life and relations between him and his former mentor rapidly soured. When Khrushchev fell ill with pneumonia, Kaganovich seized the opportunity to undermine the position of Khrushchev's supporters. After resumption of his duties, Khrushchev later recalled, his relations with Kaganovich went "from bad to worse".

By the end of 1947, Stalin had apparently recovered his faith in Khrushchev and Kaganovich was recalled to Moscow. He remained a member of the Politburo and a deputy prime minister, but his standing in Stalin's eyes declined during the last years of the latter's life. When Stalin abolished the Politburo in 1952 and replaced it with an enlarged presidium of the Central Committee and, within that presidium, a bureau of nine people, Kaganovich was one of the nine. But, according to Khrushchev, within the bureau there was an inner circle of five from which Kaganovich was excluded.

Stalin's last years were marked by an increase in his anti-Semitism and though Kaganovich, who had always been exceptionally fulsome in his praise of Stalin, was rewarded by being the only Jew to remain within the top party leadership, even he was probably more suspect by this stage in Stalin's eyes because of his Jewish origins.

After Stalin's death, Kaganovich's authority recovered, and he was awarded the Order of Lenin. He remained, indeed - as he had been from the early 1920s - a Stalinist. When a coalition of Khrushchev's opponents in the presidium of the party Central Committee was formed in 1957, Kaganovich took a prominent part in it, and in the aftermath of this failure of the "anti-party group" to remove Khrushchev, he was himself expelled from the presidium, from the Central Committee and from his post as deputy prime minister.

He was appointed manager of a cement works in Sverdlovsk and then allowed to live peacefully in retirement in Moscow where he shunned foreign correspondents, but was sometimes to be seen in libraries, at the theatre, or talking to young people on park benches.

He had been a familiar figure walking along the banks of the Moskva river and around the courtyard of his house on the city's Frunze embankment. Only over the last year or two did he withdraw to his apartment.

THE REV DR ALEC VIDLER



The Rev Dr Alexander Roper Vidler, Dean of King's College, Cambridge, 1956-66, died on July 25 aged 91. He was born on December 27, 1899.

AS DEAN of King's College, Cambridge, Alec Vidler was intellectually well able to hold his own. He was stimulating and honest, leaving faith and doubt exist side by side in creative inconsistency, describing himself once as a "sceptic in faith's clothing." He edited the highly regarded monthly *Theology* for 25 years and was midwife to hundreds of articles and dozens of books but he did not like the label theologian. He preferred to be known as an historian of ideas. Though his life suggested otherwise, he modestly accepted Dr Johnson's controversial judgment that "great abilities are not requisite for an historian". He was free from bigotry, was always ready to learn from others and yet retained his scholarly scepticism. Indeed his early career showed him in a controversy in the Birmingham Diocese to have been positively rebellious.

Alec Vidler was educated at Sutton Valence School and at Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he graduated BA in 1921. In 1933 he was awarded the Norrisian Prize for an essay on *The Modernist Movement in the Roman Church*, which he published the following year.

From Cambridge Vidler went on to complete his

training for the Ministry at Wells Theological College. He was made deacon in 1922, and was ordained priest the following year. His first curacy was at St Philip's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, working in the slums and becoming a supporter of the Labour Party. From Newcastle he went on to St Aidan's, Birmingham, where he was soon involved in the bitter controversies which at the time divided the Diocese of Birmingham. St Aidan's was an Anglo-Catholic parish which fell foul of Dr E. W. Barnes, who was then Bishop of Birmingham, over some of its sacramental practices. Vidler's intellectual ability made him a natural mouthpiece of the so-called rebels who were resisting their bishop.

In 1931 Vidler, a member of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd, joined his friend, the late Canon Wilfred Knox, at the Oratory House in Cambridge, and speedily made a name for himself as a spokesman of the "liberal Catholic" position. For the century of the Oxford Movement in 1933 he collaborated with Knox in producing a study of the whole "liberal Catholic" movement, entitled *The Development of Modern Catholicism*.

After his years at the Oratory, Vidler became, shortly before the outbreak of the war, warden of St Nevin's Library, Hawarden, where he remained for nearly 20 years. He also assumed, in January

1939, the editorship of the monthly *Theology*, which he retained until December 1964. At this time Vidler's views underwent a marked change. He was undoubtedly drawn towards the neo-orthodox which then became fashionable; he also discovered for himself aspects of the Protestant and Reformed traditions of Christianity which he had hitherto neglected. These emphases were reflected in war-time lectures and in the earlier stages of his editorship of *Theology* and suggested a definite move away from his earlier "liberal Catholic" position. Yet intellectually he remained, before all else, an extremely

learned historian of religious thought; he was able to put fashions of theological opinions in their context. In the earlier 1950s he moved back towards his first love, with a work on Lamennais entitled *Prophecy and Papacy*. There was a sceptical element in Vidler's temperament which seemed sometimes almost at war with the prophetic and priestly components of his complex personality. But, if this made him sometimes more than a little intransigent, there is no doubt that the tension worked creatively to make him the individual he was.

In 1965 he published a short book containing the text of some lectures he had delivered at Glasgow University, entitled *20th Century Defenders of the Faith*. This constituted almost a brief essay in intellectual autobiography, and showed that Vidler was prepared openly to avow the Catholic Modernists his intellectual masters. It was with them that he intellectually came most nearly to rest.

Because he was an historian of ideas, it is no accident that one of Vidler's greatest services to theological thought was in bringing people together, in stimulating discussion. And no historian of the life of the Church of England from 1939 to 1964 will be able to neglect the files of *Theology* as an invaluable record of changing opinion.

From Hawarden Vidler moved in 1948 to a curacy at

St George's Chapel, Windsor, where he devoted himself to a whole number of undertakings, including both the preparation for the ministry of a number of older men, who lived with him at St George's, and the activities of the Christian Frontiers Council.

In 1956, after the death of Ivor St Clair Ramsey, he was invited to return again to Cambridge as Dean of King's, a position demanding the services of someone capable of detachment and dedication. The dean had to be equally at home in the largely agnostic, highly sophisticated society of the college, and in the chapel, with its traditions of liturgy and music. Vidler could talk with E. M. Forster, he could create in chapel an impression of complete absorption in his office, and yet he could write in the *Radio Times* with discernment and simplicity of the significance of the ever popular carol service. If he defended the Anglican religious Establishment as an effective "apostolate of the undevout", in his personal piety practice at King's he pursued that mission with a self-discipline that was all his own.

In his last years in Cambridge, his intellectual energy was unabated. He lectured for the Faculty of Divinity, he supervised, and he stimulated the intellectual energies of others. The best known fruit of that is the volume of essays *Soundings* (1962). He was a presence in the faculty that

none who were members of it with him could ever forget. The beard, the flashing eyes, the black shirt, the white tie, all bring Alec irresistibly to mind, striding along King's Parade, and acknowledging with a grave smile those who greeted him, but did not intrude upon his thought with casual conversation. In these last years he remained a doughty controversialist, and one glimpsed the almost puckish spirit of someone who was never a respecter of persons. Along with his friend Malcolm Muggeridge he loathed the obtrusiveness of the television screen, but said it could be laid on for special occasions. He kept bees, and wrote letters to *The Times*, including one on how to read in bed.

He could make much of minor issues, and sought to ensure that the area outside the porter's lodge in King's Parade would be re-cobbled rather than be replaced by concrete slabs. For this he made "the speech of his life". During the war he was nearly sacked from the editorship of *Theology* for insisting that "the devil of Hitlerism does not automatically transform us into angels of light or prophets of the Lord."

He returned to Ryde where as a child he was kissed in his pram by Henry James, and in May 1968 was elected to Ryde Borough Council as the candidate of the Ratepayers' Association; he was mayor between 1972 and 1974. He was unmarried.

EARL ATTLEE



Earl Attlee, son of Britain's post-war Labour Prime Minister Clement Attlee, died on July 27 aged 63. He was born on August 10, 1927.

WHEN the young Princess Elizabeth dined at 10 Downing Street after the second world war, there was no shortage of light relief from the serious business of global politics. Martin Attlee, the Prime Minister's only son, was home on leave from the Merchant Navy, full of stories about his exploits in the China Seas - tales of pirates, tropical storms and shore visits. On one occasion he had had to stand in as ship's doctor, saving a sailor's arm from amputation by applying more common sense than medical knowledge - of which he had practically none. The style must have seemed in contrast to the quiet authority of his father who at

that time was pioneering the creation of Britain's welfare state. But Martin's enthusiasm for adventure and the sea had been fired by a course at the Outward Bound school in Aberdovey. After attending the school of navigation attached to what is now Southampton university he joined the Blue Funnel Line and sailed the world in cargo ships. Though he never lost his love of the sea and ships, he left the Merchant Navy after several years and began a new career in public relations. Iberian Airways was among the companies for whom he worked before joining British Rail's southern region PR department in 1970. He was made redundant six years later and at one stage started his own PR firm. In recent years he had been chairman of Keith Wilder Public Relations Limited.

He resembled his father closely in at least two respects. One was his underlying love of politics which did not evince itself until the formation of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in 1981. Disenchanted by his father's old Labour

party in the 1970s, Lord Attlee (he had inherited the title in 1967) became a founder member of the new SDP and in time a deputy whip and a spokesman on transport in the House of Lords. He was also a member of the Lords all-party defence group - reflecting his other main political interest.

He refused to follow most of his party colleagues into the merger with the Liberals, remaining loyal to Dr David Owen instead. He once remarked that if he had wanted to join the Liberal party he would have done so many years before.

In December 1988 he stood unsuccessfully for the SDP for the European parliamentary seat of Hampshire Central. "Some people say that my father must be turning in his grave. But if so, it would be only because of the sight of the present so-called Labour

party," he said at the time. "Like him, I was always on the right of the Labour party."

He was strongly pro-European and believed in a single European currency, but not in complete integration. Each European country should try to preserve its own idiosyncrasies - in Britain's case, "the pint and the mile."

He also inherited Clement Attlee's compassion for the less well-endowed and spent much of his life working for a number of charities, particularly those caring for the handicapped. Left-handed and dyslexic (in the days before dyslexia had been recognised) he felt a lifelong empathy with those suffering from any natural disadvantage. He himself had been sent to Millfield as a boy because it had a fine reputation for helping boys like himself.

He was a "do-it-yourself" enthusiast and keen amateur inventor. One of his inventions, called Stopskins - to stop skins forming on half-used tins of paint, was actually patented. But he failed to find a commercial sponsor and the patent lapsed. He was also interested in improving helicopter safety and was said at one stage to have spent hours experimenting with model helicopters in his garden.

Lord Attlee's first marriage to Anne Henderson, by whom he had a son and a daughter, was dissolved in 1988. He married his second wife Margaret Gouriet the same year. The title now passes to his son Viscount Prestwood.

In the obituary on Sir Robert Lush, his first wife's maiden name should have been given as Joan Christie.

MONDAY JULY 29 1991

Pilkington acquires French glass firm

PILKINGTON, the glass maker, has bought a French glass merchant and double-glazing manufacturer with annual sales of £350 million for an undisclosed sum.

Vitres Isolant de l'Ouest has seven subsidiaries in France and employs 420 people. Pilkington says the price paid represents less than 1 per cent of its net assets.

Last year, Saint-Gobain, the French glass maker, Pilkington's main European rival, bought Solaglas, a British glass distributor, for £96.5 million in a move that was seen as putting pressure on the British group in the declining European glass market.

EC car deal criticised

The deal that would allow Japanese car makers in Britain freedom to sell in Europe without severe import quotas is under attack from French manufacturers. The agreement by European Community ministers would allow the percentage of Japanese cars in the European market to rise from 12 to 16 per cent by the end of the decade.

Jacques Calvet, head of the PSA Group, which owns Peugeot and Citroën, has criticised French ministers for agreeing to the deal. He has called for Japanese car imports to be frozen at present levels until 2003.

Tokai Bank to sue employee

Tokai Bank, Japan's ninth largest bank, said it had uncovered fraud amounting to ¥63 billion (£270 million) that allegedly involved a former employee who was being sued.

A Tokai Bank official claimed an internal enquiry showed deposit certificates from March 1990 to June 1991 enabled customers to obtain loans from several non-bank financial institutions. Tokai withheld names of the non-bank institutions and the customers involved.

Fisher buys

Albert Fisher Group, the food business, has bought Peter Vassallo, a supplier of processed fish products, for a maximum of £13 million from Northern Investors Company. The initial payment of £8 million will be satisfied by the payment of £5.4 million in cash and the issue of 2.23 million new Fisher shares. A deferred consideration of a maximum of £5 million will be payable based upon future profits, in shares or in unsecured loan notes.

Jakarta change

Jakarta's state-run stock exchange will be privatised in October, Marzuki Usman, the chairman of the Capital Market Supervisory Board, said. The 281 securities houses have agreed to become shareholders in the stock exchange and to the setting up of a committee to work out the transition. The exchange will start with a minimum paid-up capital of 7.50 billion rupiah (£2.25 million).

Pan Am deadline

Unsecured creditors of the bankrupt Pan Am are due to decide today on the future of what was once America's premier airline. Bids for parts or the whole of the financial ailing carrier have been placed by United Airlines (\$235 million), Delta (\$260 million), and a \$450 million joint bid by American Airlines and Trans World.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8895 (+0.0015)
German mark 2.9365 (-0.0198)
Exchange index 90.9 (-0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 203.5 (+44.0)
FT-SE 100 2589.3 (+47.8)
New York Dow Jones 2972.50 (-43.82)
Tokyo Nikkei Average 23519.07 (+652.71)

Government and CBI see end to economic downturn

By COLIN NARROUGH AND PHILIP BASSETT

THE government does not expect interest rates to fall much further in the current cycle, but is still hoping that the four-point cut in rates since last October will boost consumer spending and help the economy recover in the remainder of the year.

The latest quarterly Treasury Bulletin concludes in its assessment of economic indicators that the "evidence remains consistent with the budget forecast (and most independent forecasts) of a resumption of growth in the second half of 1991". In the Budget, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, forecast 2 per cent growth in the year to end-June next year.

John Maples, the economic secretary to

the Treasury, introducing the report, says there is now far less scope for further interest rate cuts. The government is anxious to avoid having to raise interest rates again before the general election because of pressure on the exchange rate from rising inflation and interest rates in Germany. Mr Lamont said yesterday that the government would wait to see what the German authorities did and would not make any ill-considered or hasty moves on interest rates.

Mr Maples noted that interest rate differentials between Britain and Germany had already been narrowed by the four-point cut in British rates since entry to the exchange-rate mechanism last October. He added that this had reduced the scope for more base rate cuts and said that German

interest rates were "not likely to go down". Market opinion since last week's revelation of a rise in German inflation to 4.5 per cent leans heavily in favour of the Bundesbank raising interest rates, possibly by the end of August.

Developments this year suggest that the pace of recession slackened further in the second quarter and "may now have bottomed out", the Treasury report says. But the bulletin adds that any conclusions at this stage can only be tentative.

This optimism will receive qualified support from the Confederation of British Industry. The CBI's quarterly Industrial Trends survey, to be published tomorrow, will support the contention that the recession is bottoming out, but is unlikely to show any real signs of recovery. CBI

sources say the survey will show no sign of any hard increase in demand, but it is expected to show a further recovery in business confidence, which ministers regard as crucial. The survey will be broadly in line with the last quarterly enquiry in April, which showed the fall in manufacturing output had been considerably worse than had originally been thought.

The Treasury analysis draws attention to the improved outlook for exports since the Budget, reflecting recovery in America and the stronger dollar. Slower pay growth is also seen as improving British competitiveness in international markets.

Although it had been anticipated that exports would contribute significantly to recovery, Mr Maples made clear that the

government is expecting the consumer to pull the economy out of recession, as interest rate cuts and lower inflation restore confidence and allow the savings ratio to fall. He said the effects of interest rate cuts are "only just starting to come through".

On housing, he said the Treasury had always assumed that the market would remain "very weak", and that its recovery would be "very slow", which suggests that this part of the economy, so important to demand for consumer durables, is not expected to contribute much to the upturn.

The timing of a return to output growth above potential, which would start to reverse the rise in unemployment, is not considered likely by Treasury officials until the end of 1992 or 1993.

Talks with sheikh go on until deadline in effort to help depositors

Bank steps up pressure for aid over BCCI

By JONATHAN PRYNN AND NEIL BENNETT

THE Bank of England and the ruler of Abu Dhabi still have not reached agreement about an emergency aid package for depositors of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International, but negotiations between the Bank and representatives of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, who is BCCI's main shareholder, will continue up to tomorrow's High Court deadline.

Bank of England officials are pressing the sheikh to provide £100 million to help depositors and employees. If no money is forthcoming, the reconvened High Court hearing is expected to order the winding-up of BCCI.

The Bank of England is understood to be happy to

delay BCCI's liquidation if depositors are looked after. Under the rescue scheme, the sheikh would lend money to depositors and employees that would be repaid when the bank is eventually wound up or rescued. However, if there is no interim rescue package, the Bank is keen to press ahead with the liquidation, allowing the official deposit protection scheme to start making payments.

Discussions will continue with Simmons & Simmons, the sheikh's solicitor, today in order to find some common ground.

Pressure to avoid a winding-up order was also applied yesterday by a deputation of depositors and staff to No 10 Downing Street, led by Keith Vaz, the Labour MP. Mr Vaz handed in a letter to John Major, calling for a meeting

with the prime minister in the "crucial few hours" before the High Court decision. Mr Vaz said that the hearing should order an adjournment of at least 30 days to allow negotiations to continue.

In his letter, the Leicester East MP, who is co-ordinator of the parliamentary all-party BCCI group, wrote: "The taxpayers should not be burdened with compensation payments when there is an alternative to liquidation. The major shareholder appears happy to support an alternative plan."

However, the sheikh is reported to be still angry about BCCI's closure and unwilling to provide any further finance. He may be forced to change his mind, though, as Sir Nicolas Brown-Wilkinson, the vice-chancellor, made it clear in the High Court last Monday that the sheikh would have to offer financial support before he was granted a longer adjournment of the winding-up.

In Pakistan, the finance ministry has said it will resist Bank of England pressure to liquidate local BCCI branches. Three Pakistani branches are still operating despite the closure of the bank's global operations on July 5.

In Britain, the Association of BCCI Creditors is to meet John Maples, the Treasury minister, tomorrow. After a meeting of the association on Saturday, Clive Russell, a partner in Halpern and Woolf, the accountancy firm, said the group wanted to find some formula whereby some of the bank's business could be saved. He also hopes to travel to Abu Dhabi soon to discuss setting up a new bank using BCCI's remaining assets and some of its former employees.

Brian Smouha, the accountant from Touche Ross who is administrator of BCCI, returned from the Gulf last Friday after meeting with Abu Dhabi officials to discuss a partial rescue of the bank.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said that he hoped the official enquiry into the handling of the BCCI by the Bank of England and the government, headed by Lord Justice Bingham, would be completed before the next election.



Cash call: Sheikh Zayed is being pressed to provide £100 million in a rescue scheme

Chinese agreement opens door for Shell

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHELL, the Anglo-Dutch oil company, has signed an agreement that may lead to the largest joint venture in China's history, a \$2.5 billion oil project in Guangdong province.

The agreement covers a feasibility study for the Nanhai (South China Sea) project, a petrochemical complex in Huizhou, a city in the province near Hong Kong.

Li Peng, the Chinese premier, said: "The feasibility study will take a certain amount of time, but when finished it will serve as a reliable basis for our future co-operation."

Shell would take 50 per cent of the venture, with the rest in the hands of a consortium made up of four Chinese companies and the Guangdong provincial government.

The agreement represents a coup for the Chinese, who have been trying to attract foreign investors frightened off by the turmoil surrounding the crackdown on 1989's pro-democracy protests in Peking.

The uncertainty surrounding foreign investments in China was sharpened in January, when Occidental Petroleum announced it wanted to drop its 25 per cent stake in the \$750 million An Tai Bao coal mine, currently the country's largest joint venture.

John Jennings, Shell's chairman, said his company would use its most advanced technology to ensure the success of the venture, and he hoped for more chances to conduct cooperative oil explorations in China.

Scicon forecasts record £14m

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

SD-SCICON, the computer services group facing a £121 million takeover from EDS, a subsidiary of General Motors, has forecast a dramatic recovery to record pre-tax profits of £14 million and a one-third rise in dividend this year.

In the first six months to end-June, the software and services group made a pre-tax profit of £5.9 million. That compares with estimates of more than £4.5 million made earlier in the bid battle, which first featured an offer from

Cray Electronics. The buoyant defence virtually ensures that EDS would have to raise its 45p per share bid substantially to have any hope of success.

EDS has bought 25 per cent of SD-Scicon at the bid price from British Aerospace, which had declined to hear a presentation from John Jackson, the computer group's new chairman. But SD-Scicon shares stand at 57p and the bid values the group at only 11 times forecast earnings of not less than 4.07p per share, low for the industry.

The defence states that, on the average of various valuation tests, its shares are worth double the EDS bid. Institutions owning 39 per cent also say the offer is too low.

Mr Jackson says the profit forecast does not include any writebacks of last year's £25 million provisions against fixed price contracts, which are now within budget.

EDS cast doubt on the forecast and tried to damp down expectations of a much higher bid.



Jackson: BAE rejection

Disney looks for fairy tale ending

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

THE magic kingdom of Walt Disney looks in dire need of some help from Tinkerbell. The mystic dust from her wand usually enables ground-based objects to fly and Disney's profits could do with just that kind of assistance this year.

In spite of forecasts from Michael Eisner, its \$11 billion-a-year chairman, that they will grow at an annual rate of 20 per cent for the next five years, profits by the wonderful world of Disney are likely to fall this year by between 15 per cent and 22 per cent.

Film seekers are staying away from Disneyland and Disney World as an unprecedented rate, in spite of the first cut in the entry price for 35 years. Theme Park profits, which account for two-thirds of the total, dropped 39 per cent in the quarter that ended last month.

Disney films are falling at the box office and only its home video and Mickey Mouse T-shirt merchandising businesses are doing well. During the

important summer season this time last year, Disney was riding high at the cinema with the \$100 million films *Pretty Woman* and *Dick Tracy*. Its five films in the charts this week have so far grossed only \$136.6 million.

The studio usually gets only half the box office take, and with the average film costing \$26 million, Disney could be \$68 million out of pocket on the releases so far. Wall Street analysts are already cutting their estimates of Disney's profits for the year ending in September. The final three months of its financial year need to deliver net earnings of almost \$400 million for Disney to report unchanged profits this year.

The first nine months managed to produce only \$462.6 million, down almost 22 per cent from the same period a year ago, and the final quarter contributed about 28 per cent of last year's total. If that percentage is repeated, the entertainment firm will make only \$650 million, down 22 per cent. David Londoner, analyst at Wertheim

Schroder, stockbroker in New York, has cut his earnings estimates six times this year from \$997.5 million to \$698 million.

John Tinker, with County NatWest Securities, no longer describes the theme park owner as a soaring glamour stock, but as a "chicken cyclical" - vulnerable to the ebbs and flows of the economic cycle and attractive only to investors too scared of steel and aluminum shares.

Disney is currently investing heavily in television production and talking of a \$3 billion expansion of Disneyland and more hotel space and attractions at Disney World.

The opening of Euro Disney, the \$4.4 billion spotlight on American pop culture just outside Paris, is barely nine months away, but analysts say it will generate no real returns until 1993.

Meanwhile, Disney's shares, now a constituent of the Dow Jones industrial average, continue to slide. At \$117.25, they are down 12 per cent from their peak this year.

BAT and Midland discuss link

MIDLAND Bank and BAT Industries are holding talks about a marketing link that would initially allow Allied Dunbar, BAT's financial services arm, to sell some products through the Midland branch network (Jonathan Pryn writes).

Both sides emphasise that the discussions are still at an early stage and concern only a limited range of pension products. An experimental deal could pave the way for a broader distribution arrangement involving life assurance and unit trusts. Until now, Midland Financial Services (MFS), formed in 1988, has sold only in-house products.

A spokesman for BAT said that Allied Dunbar had also spoken to other potential partners but that the talks with Midland were at a more advanced stage.

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Banks seek a lender of last resort for the ecu

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PROBLEMS with the clearing and settlement system for the use of the ecu, the basket European currency unit, in private transactions have forced the authorities in Britain and France to consider the creation of a new institution to provide the growing market with a lender of last resort. This could guarantee that enough ecus would be available in the banking system to settle the transactions.

The idea is one of the options being discussed by officials of the Bank of England and the French central bank in close collaboration with the Bank for International Settlements, the Basle bank that co-ordinates the policies of central banks.

The use of the ecu in trading and in financial markets, as opposed to merely a unit of account for central banks, was given an important boost this year when several governments and international bodies, led by Britain, made very large ecu-denominated bond issues. There has been a corresponding growth in the issue and trading of corporate bonds denominated in the ecu.

While this deliberate promotion of the basket currency, made up of the currencies of the European Community, removed doubts about the long-term viability of the ecu financial markets, it highlighted structural problems in the clearing and settlement system.

The problem arises from the cloudy existence of the ecu, which is not officially issued as money in commercial quantities. Trading, therefore, depends on matching ecu balances, since deals would otherwise have to be made up from the unit's constituent currencies, and the amount of liquidity, particularly in the ecu foreign exchange market, has not kept pace with its use.

Since 1986, under an agreement with the BIS, the Ecu Banking Association has functioned as agent for the private ecu clearing system. The Ecu Banking Association is now made up of 45 commercial banks with clearer status.

Ecu payment orders use the Swift electronic network for clearing at a technical level, with the BIS acting as clearing and settlement bank.

The clearing banks have to have an Ecu account containing deposits, and final clearing balances are settled over the account, which may never show a debit balance.

The BIS does not assume the role of a lender of last resort, as national central banks do for their own currencies in the money markets. The private Ecu, therefore, lacks one of the crucial prerequisites of a normal currency.

On Thursday, the ecu clearing banks will introduce an enhanced system, which has been agreed between them, to recycle ecu funds from one bank to another to overcome difficulties being encountered in the daily clearing operations.

The risk is that one of the clearing banks might find it impossible to finance an ecu shortfall, even with recycling, making it necessary to hold up the clearing process.

The lack of a central bank liquidity facility also means that the private ecu clearing system does not come up to the standards set in a BIS report last year on inter-bank clearing systems, falling down on credit and liquidity risk criteria.

Britain, which was the use of the ecu to develop through market forces as an alternative to a single European currency, is keen to ensure that the financial infrastructure is there to allow this to happen. The provision of central banking functions for the ecu similar to those provided for national currencies is also seen as the likely genesis of a European central bank.

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Sporting chance: Bob Felice of Starter, hoping to sell Americana to Europeans

US tackles British market in sportswear

By MARTIN WALLER

THE bulky shoulder-pads and armour, fortunately, an optional extra, although they might come in handy on the London Tube. The rest of the American football look is likely to become a common sight on these shores if one American paying particular attention to last night's clash in London between the Buffalo Bills, from upstate New York, and the Philadelphia Eagles, has his way.

Bob Felice is sales manager with Starter, a Connecticut maker of sportswear and a sponsor of the National Football League in the United States. He is in London spearheading a push into the next big market for Starter, Britain and the rest of Europe.

American football fans wear the uniform of their own team in the same way that football fans in Britain sport the relevant scarf. The American market is, however, reckoned to be saturated with authentic team-branded sportswear, and the makers are casting their eyes elsewhere.

"There seems to be a tremendous demand for American sportswear, American sports and any kind of Americana throughout Europe," Mr Felice observed. Between 1989 and 1990 Starter's overseas sales more than trebled and projections for this year suggest a total of \$20 million.

Scandals old and new fail to move Tokyo markets

From JOANNA FITTMAN IN TOKYO

THE departure of two securities industry leaders over improper payment of compensation, testimony in parliament by the minister of finance over the affair, and the discovery by three banks of illegal loan schemes being run within their organisations failed to further depress the Tokyo stock market last week.

The Nikkei average closed higher for the fourth consecutive day on Friday as the market turned its attention away from the revelation a month ago that Japan's leading securities firms improperly paid compensation to favoured clients to cover losses made on stock and bond markets.

Interest in the scandal has now switched to whether the finance ministry or brokers should name names on a list of compensated clients, including more than 200 leading corporate investors.

The issue has overshadowed a banking scandal that came to light last week with the disclosure by Fuji Bank, Japan's fourth largest bank, of an illegal loan scheme using forged certificates of deposit worth ¥260 billion (£12 billion).

The forged documents were used as collateral by Fuji clients to obtain loans from non-bank finance groups when Fuji Bank was unable to lend sufficient money. The bank has admitted that 51 certificates were faked between 1987 and this year.

Most of the 23 customers who accepted the certificates were real estate developers. Ryutaro Hashimoto, the finance minister, and his department have maintained pressure on banks to limit lending to the real estate sector as part of a government policy to cap soaring land prices. However, non-bank finance companies do not come under finance ministry jurisdiction.

After Fuji's admissions came a disclosure from Kyowa Saitama Bank, the nation's eighth largest bank, that a former employee had run a similar illegal loan scheme using forged certificates of deposit. Two of the bank's clients obtained loans worth almost ¥30 million from non-bank financing companies. On

Sunday, Tokai Bank, the nation's ninth largest bank, admitted it, too, had issued false certificates of deposit to clients who used them to borrow at least ¥60 billion for property-related transactions.

All three banks have put all the blame on those individuals directly involved. Kyowa Saitama Bank and Tokai Bank are planning to sue former employees over the fraudulent actions.

Wherever the banks may shift the blame, they cannot escape the reality that such malpractices were a successful way for them to bypass finance ministry directives on real estate lending.

As a result of the admissions, the finance ministry and the Bank of Japan have ordered all city banks to carry out in-house inspections from today, to ensure employees have not been involved in irregular business practices.

The move is in accordance with the Bank of Japan's policy to deflate "Japan's bubble economy" of unrealistically high share and property prices.

While senior officials say the current state of scandals is related to the Bank of Japan's policy of keeping the more questionable activities of its constituents in check, the real targets are those speculators who made a large contribution to Japan's spiralling share and property markets during the Eighties. These real estate leaders, who, many believe, sidestep pay taxes and are perceived to have a less than wholesome approach to business ethics, have operated beyond the control of the financial authorities.

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Hashimoto: pressure

C&G retains societies league title

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

THE Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society was the best-performing society for the second year running last year, according to research by UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker.

The sixth-largest society achieved its success by concentrating on its core activities and keeping a close control on costs, the study, published today, says. Total assets increased 59 per cent last year, with more than half of that amount coming from normal business activity. The remainder resulted from four mergers.

Abbey National, which converted to a public company in 1989, is not included in the table. If it had been, it would have pushed the Cheltenham & Gloucester into second place.

The Skipton, which moved up from fourth to second place in the major players report, was the most profitable society. It increased its market share by aggressive pricing and tight cost control. Virtually all the areas of diversification undertaken by other societies, many of which proved unprofitable, were avoided.

The Skipton has no estate agencies, does not offer cheque books, current accounts, credit cards, travellers' cheques or on-balance sheet unsecured lending.

The most improved society was the Northern Rock, which scaled 13 positions to take fifth place with the Yorkshire Building Society. The Leeds improved nine places to eighth, while the Nationwide rose eight places to 11.

At the bottom of the table for the second year running was the Birmingham Midlands, which has been hit particularly hard by rising bad

debts. The Lancington Spa was the first leading building society for many years to report a loss. As a result, it was forced to merge with the Bradford & Bingley Building Society at the beginning of July last year.

The Town & Country Building Society, which until recently offered the cheapest credit card, fell from No 2 on the table to 19th.

While adverse economic conditions led eight of the top 20 societies to report falls in profits, five had experienced growth in assets of more than 25 per cent during the year.

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While adverse economic conditions led eight of the top 20 societies to report falls in profits, five had experienced growth in assets of more than 25 per cent during the year.

Board battle at Holmes heats up

THE battle between the board of Holmes Protection, the US security group quoted in London, and a group of dissident shareholders in the company looks set to come to a head in two months' time (Jonathan Prynn writes).

The company said on Friday that it had agreed to a request from the investor group led by Eric Kohn, a former director, for a special shareholders' meeting to consider the composition of the board. This meeting will be on September 24.

Last week Holmes Protection offered board seats to two representatives of the investor group, Sir Ian MacGregor, the former British Coal chairman, and Barbara Thomas, a former commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Com-

mission. The offer was rejected by the rebel shareholders, who want all five board seats filled by their nominees. The dissidents own 24.5 per cent of the company but claim the support of 40 per cent of the shareholders.

Mr Kohn said that the date set for the meeting was the latest possible under Delaware law and that the company's acute financial problems required the issue of boardroom control to be settled as quickly as possible.

The investor group rejected the board seats offer because existing management would retain a majority of the company's directors. Holmes has been in negotiations with its lenders since January when it missed a repayment deadline.

SMALLER COMPANIES

See-sawing time in council supply

A WELL-KNOWN fact of business life is that every time a big company goes under it pulls dozens of smaller enterprises down with it (Jonathan Prynn writes).

The same is true of local authorities, although clearly they cannot actually go into receivership in the same way as companies. The massive scale of the spending power of the UK's local authorities, however, means that any downturn in their budgets is likely to have a knock-on effect throughout the local economy.

Birmingham city council alone employs 51,000 people, compared with the 20,000

employees of IBM in the whole of the UK.

In recent years local government seems to have been in a state of almost continuous flux, culminating, though not ending, with the furore surrounding the poll tax. Last week saw striking examples of a winner and a loser in that process report their figures.

The winner was Capita Group, the USM company of the year, which has carved out a niche in supplying a range of white-collar services to local authorities. In total over the past seven years, Capita has worked for 75 per cent of the 540 local authorities in the UK. With its consultancy, facilities management and computer services arms, Capita is well placed to benefit from the rapid changes in local government, as more and more authorities look for ways of contracting out to save money.

Two recently won facilities management contracts alone, one each for the Berkshire and Oxfordshire county councils, are worth a combined £37 million over the next seven years. Capita is even benefiting from the uncertainty surrounding local authority finances through offering a computerised revenue collection service. Not surprisingly, Capita announced sparkling results on Wednesday, with pre-tax profits up 45 per cent to £1.38 million.

For suppliers of non-essential products and services to local authorities, however, it has been a grim year. The difficulties in collecting the poll tax, combined with local authority attempts to reduce expenditure to keep the tax as low as possible, left these companies out in the cold. Levercrest, which last week reported a £247,000 loss in its first year as a public company, is a typical example. The company produces playground equipment and playground safety surfaces, mainly for local authorities. A very valuable product, but unfortunately very non-essential in times of financial constraints. As the chairman of that company might be tempted to say, it is a question of swings and roundabouts.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Common sense and BCCI

LOCAL authority treasurers, we read, could lose up to £100 million of funds deposited with BCCI. British exports worth £1 billion are at risk because of letters of credit made worthless by the BCCI debacle.

The losses to British companies and local authorities are indeed serious, although, fortunately they could have been worse. For while BCCI was an active lender to, and taker of deposits from, many smaller enterprises, its long-standing reputation as one of the more mysterious members of the London banking community seems to have scared off larger potential corporate customers.

Indeed, in a straw poll of some of Britain's largest com-

panies, including some of its heaviest borrowers, not one of those contacted said it had loans or deposits with BCCI. One company, Grand Metropolitan, which, with its massive syndicated acquisition facilities, has relationships with more banks than most, said that it had made a specific point of removing BCCI from the list of banks it was prepared to have as lenders.

Among smaller companies, especially those with Asian connections, the picture is less clear. Speculation continues to surround Control Securities' Nazim Virani, who has yet to make a clear statement on the scale of his company's banking relationships with BCCI. One name that can be removed from the list is

Caparo Industries, whose chairman, Sir Paul, said his company had no connection with the bank either in the form of deposits or loans.

London loan syndication managers said that they could not remember BCCI's name appearing on any syndicate lists during the rash of deals that appeared during the mid and late Eighties.

At that time, when credit was easy and banks queued to be invited on the prestige syndicates, it is unlikely that any corporate treasurer would have wanted the slightly dubious name of BCCI appearing on a tombstone when he had the cream of the international banking community to choose from. The bank was not entirely absent from the UK corporate lending scene, however, it is known to have advanced money to a bidder in at least one hostile Eighties takeover, and may have been touting its services more widely to would-be highly leveraged bidders.

Nevertheless, the overall impression is that the wider corporate community left BCCI well alone, even before the 1988 revelations about its drug money laundering activities. If only local authority treasurers had shown the same common sense.

JONATHAN PRYNN

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No.	Company	Group	Code	Share Price
1	Castings	Industrials A-D		
2	ERA A-D	Banking/Discount		
3	ERA A-D	Banking/Discount		
4	Staveley	Industrials E-K		
5	Sevens Hunter	Electronics		
6	Livestock	Industrials L-R		
7	Sevens Hunter	Water		
8	Transport Dev	Transport		
9	Galiford	Building/Roads		
10	Christie Int	Industrials A-D		
11	Unigate	Food		
12	Midland	Banking/Discount		
13	Agriplan	Motor/Aircraft		
14	Glen	Industrials E-K		
15	Brace	Property		
16	GEN	Industrials E-K		
17	Fletcher King	Property		
18	Texas Perkins	Building/Roads		
19	Bank Of Scotland	Banking/Discount		
20	Life Sciences	Electronics		
21	Freemantle	Hotels/Catering		
22	Ashtley (Laurie)	Drugs/Stores		
23	Hardy O & G	Oil/Gas		
24	ISA Int	Industrials E-K		
25	Town Centre	Property		
26	Edinburgh	Industrials E-K		
27	David & Newman	Transport		
28	Edinburgh	Industrials E-K		
29	Watts Blake	Building/Roads		
30	James Stroud	Electronics		
31	Resonance	Hotels/Catering		
32	De Dredging	Building/Roads		
33	Levi	Transport		
34	Wessex Water	Water		
35	Reccer PLC	Building/Roads		
36	Courts Furniture	Drugs/Stores		
37	Armour	Industrials A-D		
38	Perkins Food	Food		
39	ABT	Electronics		
40	BAT	Industrials E-K		
41	Grouping Hdg	Industrials E-K		
42	Thomson	Food		
43	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D		
44	Storehouse	Drugs/Stores		

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £12,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the weekly Portfolio Platinum prize. The prize money of £8,000 is carried over.

BRITISH FUNDS

Share Price	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
Share Price	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
Share Price	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90

UNDATED						
Share Price	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90

INDEX-LINKED						
Share Price	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90
10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90	10/10/90

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end August 9. Contango day August 12. Settlement day August 19.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
25.50	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

BREWERIES					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

BUILDING, ROADS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

ELECTRICITY					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

FOODS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

DRAPEY, STORES					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

ELECTRICALS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0
100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

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100.00	100	0.10	0.10	10.0	10.0

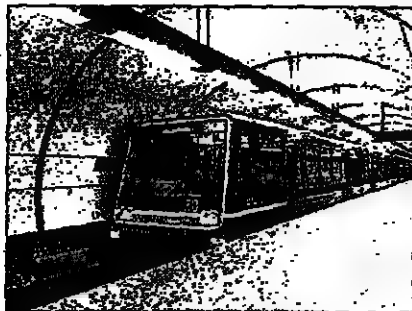
Portfolio

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Building bridges and a community spirit

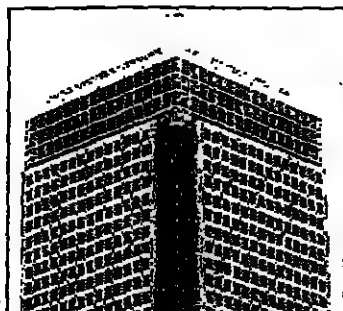
A new regime is running Docklands after recession ended the boom times. The men in charge of its future success tell Christopher Warman about the many challenges ahead



On track: the light railway



Still sailing: Tobacco Dock



Tops: Canary wharf tower



Sky watch: the City airport



David Hardy: investment



Eric Sorensen: realistic

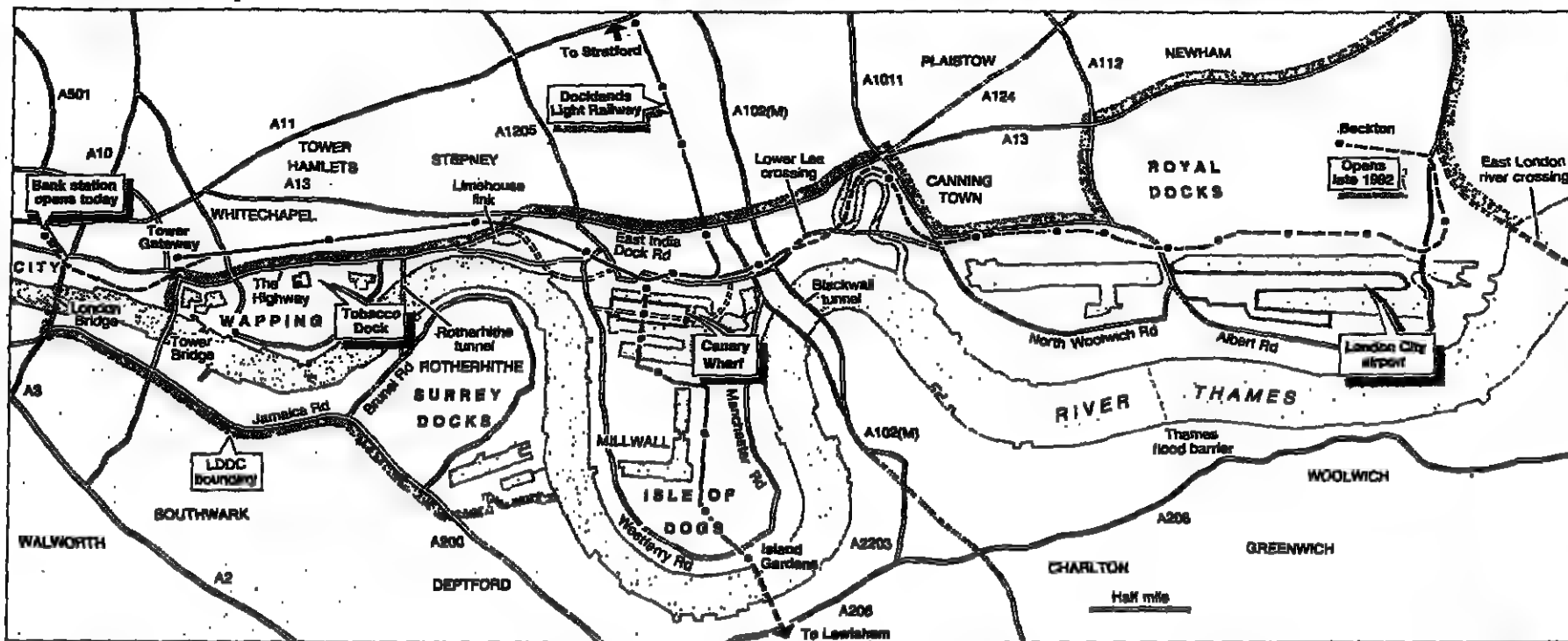
When the London Docklands Development Corporation celebrated its tenth anniversary earlier this month, its lavish official dinner, addressed by its founding father, Michael Heseltine, and the small protest demonstration that accompanied it to highlight community needs, were both justified.

In the corporation's ten years there has been a transformation of the eight square miles of London Docklands, an area left derelict since its life as working docks ended in the Sixties, and previously fought over without success by the local boroughs and the Greater London Council. At the same time, the corporation's new regime agrees with the commonly accepted view that the local councils and the local people must be involved in its future.

The corporation, which was set up in 1981 by Mr Heseltine, then environment secretary for the first time, has overseen a dramatic change in its fortunes, involving commercial and residential development, employment and training opportunities, infrastructure, environmental and transport improvements, and a present emphasis on better transport.

Looking back over the years of spectacular boom and development that ran ahead of itself before the recession struck, David Hardy, the corporation's chairman, recalls that the authority was set up as a single-minded body empowered to acquire land, put in basic infrastructure and encourage the private sector to invest in redevelopment, bringing new houses, jobs and businesses.

He says: "Today an investment of £1.12 billion of public money has triggered £8.42 billion from private sources. Working in partnership with private developers, the three local boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham and Southwark and many other stan-



tory authorities, the balance of London is being shifted towards the east."

As the recession has slowed development in the last two years, the time is right for a realistic assessment and acceptance of the challenge ahead. Eric Sorensen, an environment department civil servant, who during the Eighties had a close involvement in the Merseyside development corporation, has run the inner cities directorate and worked on the later generations of development corporations, was appointed chief executive in February to tackle the task.

He is indeed realistic. He says it was unfortunate, because of the political forces involved, that the corporation was set up in opposition to the local authorities, which has led to a continuing undercurrent of hostility.

"There should be, and must be, shared goals, and we could have

been even more effective if there had been a shared partnership from the start," he says. "My predecessor, Michael Honey, made a considerable attempt to build bridges and I am convinced that we will do much better with a deliberate, cooperative working relationship. Better times have been signalled by the fact that all the local authorities will have representatives on the board."

Since the Docklands cake where you will, and you get a different taste. The official figures show that 1,500 acres of derelict land has been reclaimed at a cost of £113 million, that £502 million has been spent on new or improved road and public transport, that bus-

nesses have doubled from 1,100 to 2,300 and 41,000 new jobs have been provided.

A total of £65 million has been spent on education, training, and support for industry, health and community programmes, 100,000 trees have been planted, and the area has attracted 43 awards for landscape, architecture and conservation. The Association of

'Regeneration is not just brick and mortar but also about employability, training and jobs for local people'

London Authorities and Docklands Consultative Committee argues that the cake has been unevenly sliced. It claims in a report that the corporation has not met promises on jobs, transport and housing. There has been too little community support, too

many houses built for young executives and not enough social housing, and no integrated transport strategy, its report says, urging a return of powers to the local authorities and communities. The committee knows that Docklands was not regenerated when the local authorities had the opportunity, but the suspicion still lingers about the body imposed upon them. Mr Sorensen has walked around the Docklands, looking at particular areas, taking photographs, pointing out to his officials the failures and the need for improvements. He emphasises that nobody in the early days had any idea of the pace of development and it meant that the infrastructure failed to keep pace.

"The transport infrastructure should have been finished two years ago, but that is not the way we do things in Britain. We go for perceived, not hoped for, need. The result is that the people here have had a lot to bear and we owe them a lot," he says.

"We are engaged in shifting the economic geography of London to the east and I think it is going to work. The area will have an enormous number of assets it did not have 10 years ago, but some people are frightened about it."

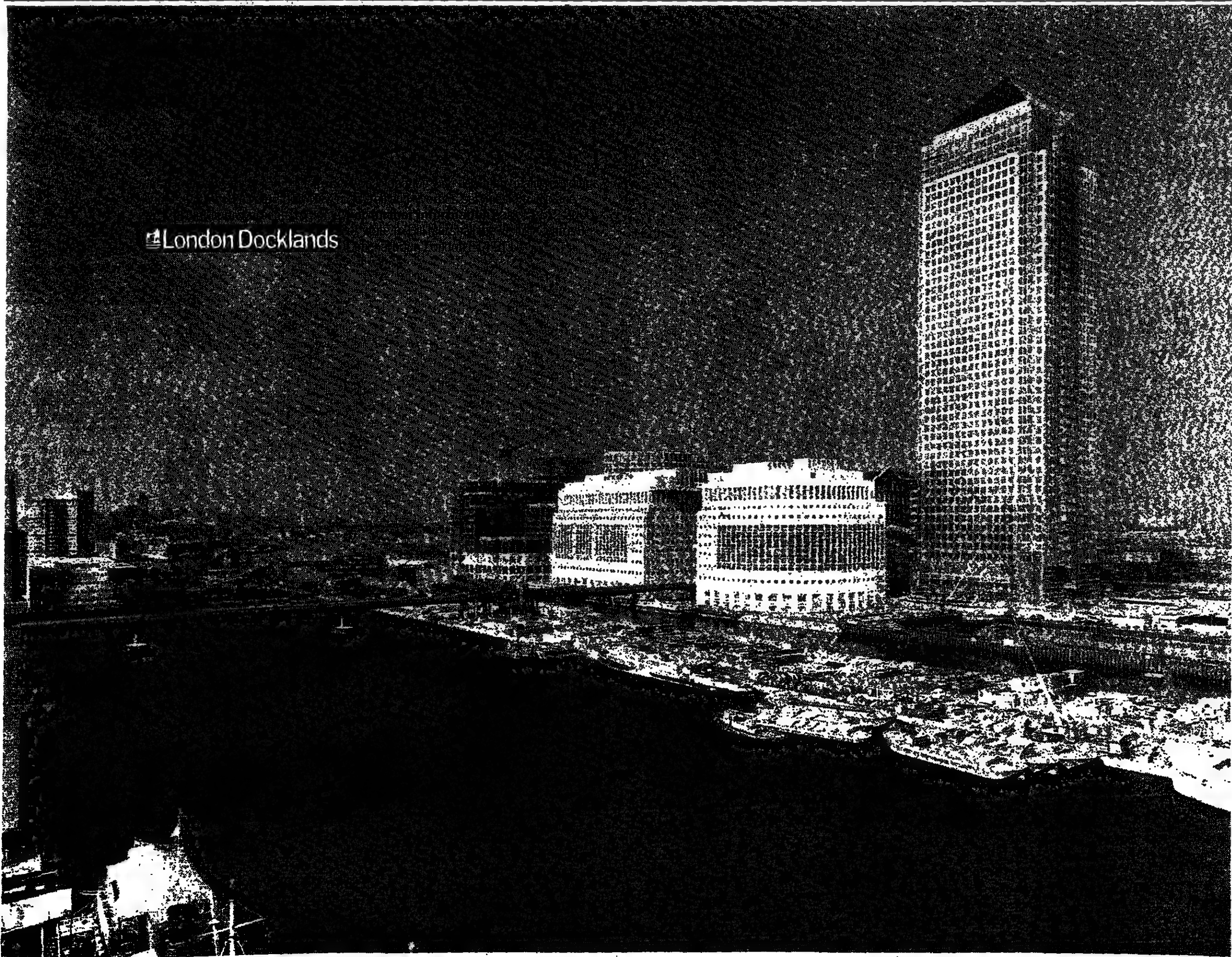
"We have bounced about with the community a bit, and we have got to be terribly careful not to make promises we cannot deliver. And we must remember that regeneration is not just brick and mortar, but also about employability, training and jobs for local people."

The decision on the east Thames crossing and on jet aircraft at the City airport are awaited, and the Channel tunnel is going ahead with its implications for Dock-

lands. At the eastern end of Docklands the royal docks still await development, having lost the grand Roschaugh Stanhope design, but negotiations are underway.

What Mr Sorensen intends is the completion of the transport projects, intelligent marketing to attract people and businesses, and "ways of making the place look less like a business park".

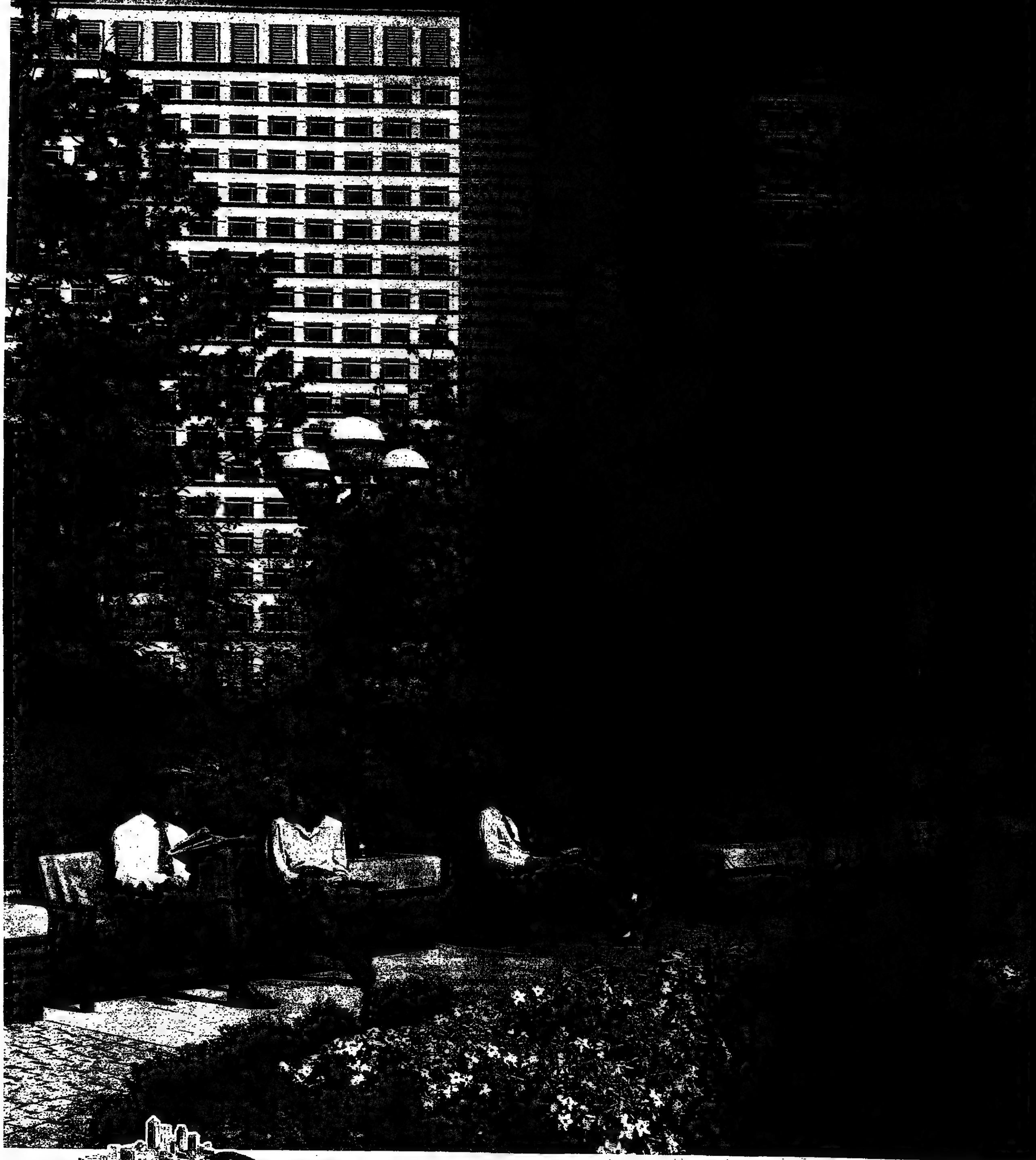
He knows that Docklands has got to overcome criticism from the City, and that he must bring the local authorities and communities with him. He says: "There is a lot of ritual shouting over the barricades, but I am trying to build bridges over them, and, although I would like to be loved, I realise that is unlikely. But after padding around Whitehall for some years this is the challenge I have now, and I would wish to stay until it is done."



London Docklands

Designing, building, glazing, painting, installing,
inlaying, polishing, planting,
we really enjoy working at Canary Wharf.

Now it's your turn.



CANARY WHARF. THE FUTURE OF LONDON.

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

On the right lines for the Nineties

The light railway had a slow start in 1987 but new lines and a faster service are expected to lure passengers. Michael Dynes reports

The Docklands Light Railway is beginning to shed its toy-town train set image after years of ridicule from passengers who have had to endure severe overcrowding and repeated delays and cancellations. Ironically, the first signs of a shift in public attitude towards the railway, from outright hostility to grudging admiration, came, not with the promise of new investment, but with the railway's performance during the severe cold spell in February.

While snow brought British Rail and London Underground services almost to a standstill, the light railway staff decided to run trains through the night to prevent a build-up of ice on the tracks and to enable the system to provide a normal service.

The achievement was seen by passengers and staff as a promising start to a year in which the first of a series of modifications was due to take place, transforming the over-

burdened railway into one of the most advanced urban transit systems in the world.

The original railway, from Tower Gateway to Island Gardens and Stratford, opened in 1987, and cost £77 million. It provided commuters with a seven-and-a-half-mile line, and was intended to carry 15,000 people a day on a total of 11 trains. However, the increased passenger demand, stimulated by the regeneration of the formerly derelict docklands, left the railway hopelessly inadequate to meet local needs.

Work on a series of schemes to upgrade the railway began soon after it was opened. The first, which will extend the railway to Bank in the City, opens today.

The £282 million Bank extension, which includes two tunnels under Tower Hill, extensive platform lengthening and signalling improvements, will create the first direct connection between the light railway and the underground

network, allowing passengers to travel between the City and the £4 billion Canary Wharf development in ten minutes.

Services through the first tunnel begin today and trains will run every ten minutes. When both tunnels are fully operational by the winter, trains will run every two minutes. Fears that Tower Gateway station will close are unfounded, although services will be reduced.

Less than a year after the Bank extension is fully operational, the £256 million extension to Beckton in east London, which includes 13 new stations, will come into service, providing a link to the heart of the Docklands region.

The railway is also to be extended south of the Thames to Greenwich and Lewisham, as part of a £130 million scheme to be built and operated by the private sector. This three-mile extension will run from Island Gardens on the Isle of Dogs, through a river



Heading for expansion: today the Bank extension is to be opened and by the mid Nineties the light railway will cover 15 miles

tunnel, to Lewisham in southeast London, with intermediate stations at Cutty Sark, Greenwich, Deptford Creek and Elversham Road. The extension is expected to be operational in about 1996.

London Regional Transport has sponsored the parliamentary bill needed to authorise the building of the extension. The bill recently completed its second reading in

the Commons. The design, construction, and operation of the line will be left to whichever company wins the contract. Balfour Beatty, Bovis, John Mowlem, and Trafalgar House are the four competing. Passengers will be able to travel directly between Lewisham and Bank, effectively integrating southeast London into the underground network. The

Lewisham extension will have the capacity for an additional 6,000 river crossings every hour, relieving traffic congestion at existing river crossing sites at Blackwall, Rotherhithe, and Tower Bridge. The extension will also widen the railway's catchment area to Lewisham, Greenwich, Bexley and Bromley, putting an estimated 500,000 people within 45 minutes

of the Canary Wharf development. When all the extensions are completed, in the middle of the Nineties, the original seven-mile, £77 million light railway will have been transformed into a 15-mile, £845 million, multi-line network, capable of carrying about 15,000 people an hour, or more than eight times the volume originally expected.



The way forward: roadworks at Limehouse where a spectacular tunnel will run for more than a mile

Road ahead is paved with promise

A new road system costing £650 million in Docklands will be completed in 1993. The main projects are under construction and many will be completed next year. The projects in the royal docks area are already finished.

In addition, the transport department has completed, or has plans for, more than £1 billion worth of road projects.

The key is the east-west link on the north side of the Thames. The A13 from London to Southend forms the northern boundary of Docklands and is virtually the only through route. It is heavily congested and work on improvements has made matters worse in the short term. At the eastern end there have been road widening and changes to junctions near the Blackwall tunnel bottleneck. In the west, lanes have been removed to improve the junction with West India Dock Road, the gateway to the Isle of Dogs.

Through traffic will use a route

Motorists can look forward to a smooth drive when road projects in the Docklands area are completed in 1993 at a cost of £650 million

of four to six lanes stretching from Canning Town to The Highway, which runs to Tower Hill and gives access to the City and the Embankment.

Within Docklands, the road system is taking increasing amounts of through traffic, but as a corresponding cost. Vehicles leaving the Highway have to use Narrow Street, which is not built for heavy traffic, followed by a difficult right-hand turn into West India Dock Road.

At the eastern end traffic forces its way back into the worst choked stretch of the A13 just before the Blackwall tunnel.

The new east-west highway involves a tunnel at each end. The more spectacular one will run for more than a mile under Lime-

house. The other will feed back into the A13 to the east of the Blackwall tunnel. Alternatively, a bridge across the mouth of the River Lea will give access through Silvertown to the southern end of the North Circular Road.

All this work is being carried out by the London Docklands Development Corporation. The transport department has two important projects. The £300 million East London river crossing will open up the royal docks area to traffic from the southeast, giving faster access to the Channel tunnel. This will be a six-mile dual carriageway continuing the North Circular Road that at present peters out at the Woolwich ferry. The department hopes the new bridge crossing will be open well before the end of the

century. However, there has been opposition on environmental grounds to the road scheme at the southern end of the bridge.

The second project is to build a new northbound Blackwall tunnel and turn the existing one into a local spur linking the Isle of Dogs with Greenwich. Both plans would indirectly help to relieve congestion on Jamaica Road and Lower Road, which form the southern boundary of Docklands. This route is the only reasonable alternative for drivers trying to escape the slow grind on the A2. Unfortunately it feeds increasing amounts of traffic into Greenwich.

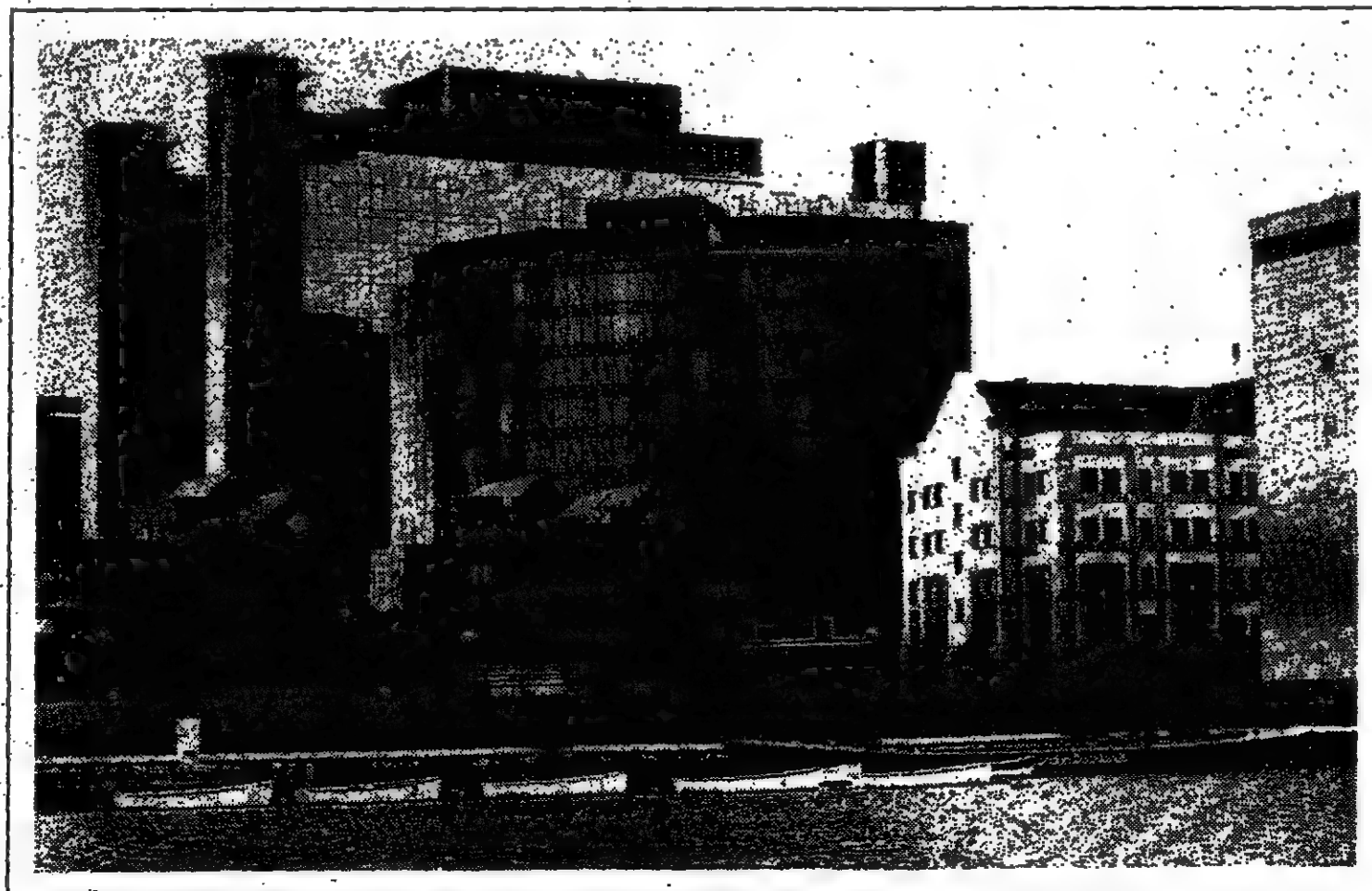
The scope for improvement is limited, and beneficial changes to traffic flow around the Surrey Quays underground station have been undermined by restrictions imposed on weak bridges. Switching Kent traffic to the north of the Thames would remove some of the strain.

RODNEY HOBSON

ECGD MOVES TO DOCKLANDS

ECGD is happy to announce that it will be moving its London Headquarters to Harbour Exchange in August.

It will become the first Government Department to be based in Docklands.

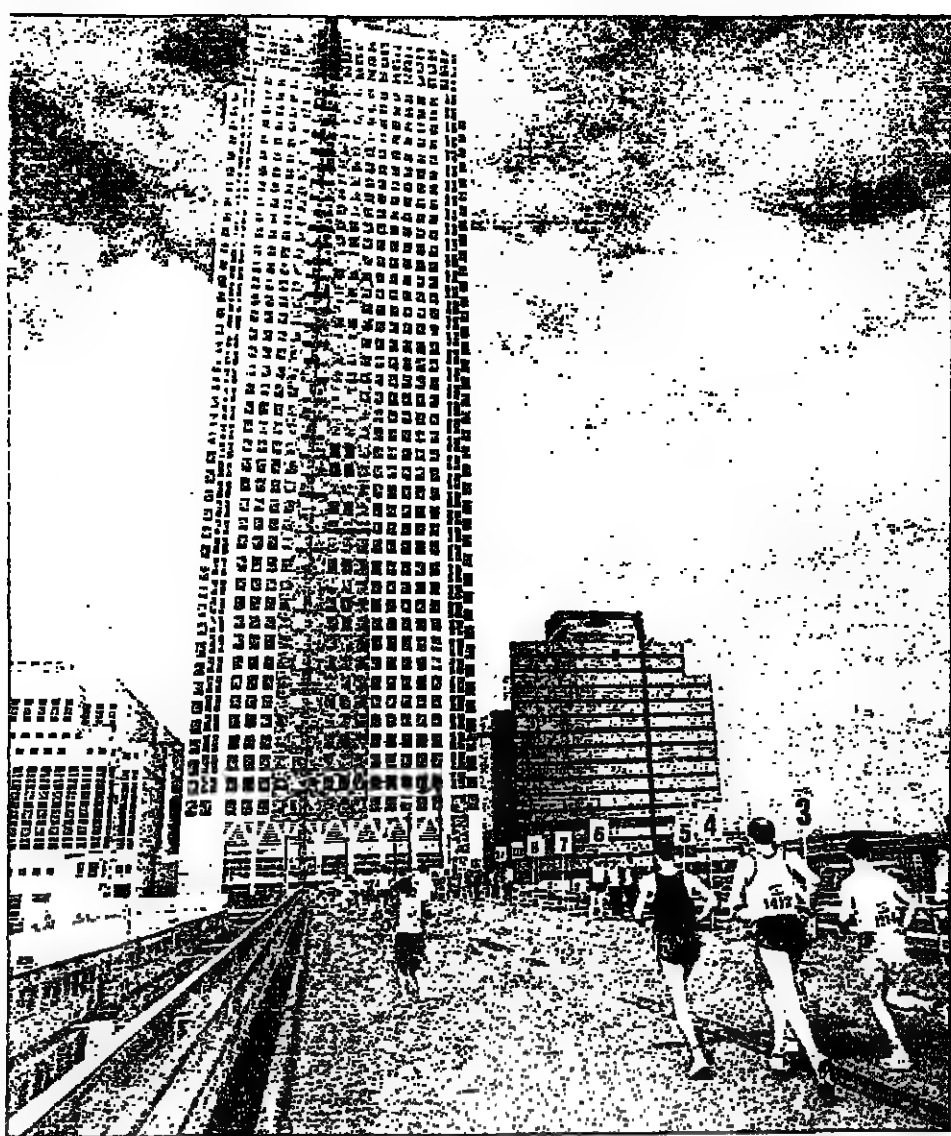


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Tower of strength: marathon runners head towards the Canary Wharf landmark

A tall order to be filled

The tower is the focus of Canary Wharf but the object is to attract tenants to every building, Christopher Warman says

Canary Wharf's gleaming 800ft tower stands sentinel on the Isle of Dogs, a potent image of the confidence that the property boom of the Eighties engendered and visible from all points of the compass.

For many people Canary Wharf is the tower, which frustrates Michael Dennis, the managing director of Olympia & York (Canary Wharf), who has the daunting task of bringing the £4 billion scheme to completion.

He points to the other buildings in the first phase that are virtually completed, and emphasises that the development is a reality and no longer a series of models.

Canary Wharf is out to prove that it can not only survive the present recession, but will also lead the recovery of the commercial property market in the near future. While a large amount of development around it is delayed until the market improves, Canary Wharf changes daily. About six million of the planned ten million square feet are under construction.

That is not to suggest that it has been without difficulties, but Canadian-owned Olympia & York, the world's largest private development company, has shown that it is big

enough to withstand the recession. The company recalls that it built the highly successful World Financial Centre in New York in the recession of the early Eighties.

Mr Dennis does not ignore the present recession, and admits that very little happened between last August and March. He says: "Now we have started to get moving, with the Gulf war over and interest rates coming down. People are sensing the end of the recession and businesses are starting to plan for recovery and make space decisions. We are showing dozens of firms around every week and we expect a number of transactions in the next few weeks."

More than 50 per cent of the 4.2 million square feet of the first phase has been pre-let, and Mr Dennis expects to let a million square feet of extra space in the next year, partly thanks to improving economic factors and partly because businesses can now see what the development looks like.

"There is no way a model can show the feeling of the place, its space and its views. Seeing it is stirring up a

considerable amount of interest," he says.

The first tenants will move into the tower later this year. The *Telegraph* newspapers are due in December, and Morgan Stanley International will occupy its 500,000 sq ft building in November. As the tenants move in, the first shops will open. There will be pubs, restaurants, newsagents and tobacconists, "providing the necessities of life", and next year Marks & Spencer.

The arrival of tenants is expected to trigger an improvement in the residential market, and already Texaco, moving in next year, has bought 14 apartments in the riverside Cumberland Mills scheme on the Isle of Dogs for its executives.

Canary Wharf's second phase is under way, and the buildings will become available until 1994. The next phase will depend on letting a million square feet in the coming year.

"We hoped to create a sense of place, and I think we have done that," Mr Dennis says. "Thereafter it is a question of growth. Look at Broadgate, look at London Bridge City,

still with development to come. They have a sense of place, and nobody asks what is going to happen next. We will bring Canary Wharf to the market as the market dictates, but I am somewhere between hopeful and confident that the next phase will start in 1993."

The company is discreet about the finances of the project, but has occasionally been stung into giving information about such matters as rent levels after facing a constant barrage of reports about the inducements it has offered to persuade companies to take space.

Accordingly, the average rent for space let in the first phase has been put at about £30 per square foot, rather more than in the rest of Docklands.

Some tenants have signed 25-year leases, but the big space users have had their rents pegged at the initial rate until the eleventh year, when they will rise to the market level. After that there will be five yearly upward-only reviews. The usual rent-free periods and contributions to fitting-

out costs have been in line with other schemes, and, in line with the company's practice in North America, it has acquired existing buildings from tenants in some cases.

Other future tenants are Crédit Suisse First Boston, one of the original backers of the project, Manufacturers Hanover, American Express, and the advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather, which has practised since it has been handling publicity for the Canary Wharf development. Other advertising agencies have had detailed negotiations and could be among the next agreed tenants.

A key to the success of Canary Wharf is transport, the big problem of Docklands at present, and Olympia & York has invested heavily to ensure that it will be adequate to provide for the 20,000 staff envisaged at Canary Wharf. Altogether 100,000 people are expected to be living or working on the Isle of Dogs by the end of the century.

Mr Dennis acknowledges that there is an oversupply of space in London now, and will be for some time.

However, he says that not a great deal of property is available for the big users, although there is plenty of smaller accommodation.

After the housing boom, builders and owners suffered, but the analysts believe the next few months will change all this

The figures are impressive. In the past decade 15,200 new homes have been completed in London Docklands. Privately owned housing has increased from 5 to 44 per cent. £147 million has been spent on new and replacement housing for local people, and 3,500 council homes have been refurbished (Christopher Warman writes).

Much of this activity, however, was in the mid Eighties, before the 1988-9 housing crash. Since then, the casualties have been builders facing bankruptcy and owners with high mortgages, unable to sell and leaving hundreds of

The signs of confidence

houses empty. However, there are signs that confidence will return in a few months. A survey by the DP3 consultancy shows that although no new building has started this year, and little if any is expected for the rest of 1991, demand for rented accommodation will soon increase and an improvement in sales could follow.

The report says an influx of up to 10,000 office workers

moving into Canary Wharf and the consequent awareness of the Docklands area will bring about these results. A significant example is this month's announcement that Texaco, one of the companies moving into Canary Wharf, has bought 14 apartments at Cumberland Mills, an Isle of Dogs riverside development opposite the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.

A survey by DP3 of 51

Docklands schemes, involving 5,594 homes, shows that 320 houses and flats have been sold in the first six months of the year, a third more than in the first half of last year, although nine schemes reported no sales. Fewer buyers have pulled out of deals, as often happened last year. There are now more realistic buyers, helped by incentives.

The main reason, DP3 suggests, is that developers are dropping indirect inducements, such as mortgage subsidies and equity sharing, and are giving straightforward price reductions, up to 25 per cent, and will consider offers.

"In response to recessionary conditions, prices have finally been reduced dramatically to their true market level and elaborate inducement packages have tended to be withdrawn," the survey reports.

At the end of June there remained just over 1,500 homes unsold, of which 130 have been withdrawn to await an improved market and a further 341 have been rented. More are being completed, and DP3 suggests that 1,500 will have to be sold or rented to remove oversupply by the end of 1991. Unless developers plunge in again, the result could be that new homes will become scarce by the second half of next year and will stimulate the market.

The agent Chestertons is already reporting some increased prices. These rises, which point to eventual recovery in Docklands, are at the lower end of the Isle of Dogs market. In the £50,000-£150,000 range for small flats, a two-bedroom flat in Clippens Quay, sold in 1990 for £125,000, has recently been resold for £135,000. A riverside flat in Caledonian Wharf Road, sold in 1988 for £55,000, has fetched £84,000.

Chestertons Residential believes most buyers in Docklands are attracted by the improving accessibility to the City, the price and quality of accommodation, and an increasing demand as office tenants begin to move in.

Last year imaginative "packages" cutting the cost of buying, at least in the short term, boosted activity, leading to some sales. The most startling deal was the 50-50 shared equity scheme, under which the buyer pays half the cost immediately and the remainder within five years.

The scheme, followed by several variations, was started by Fairclough Homes at its developments at Cyclops Wharf on the Isle of Dogs and King & Queen Wharf in Surrey Quays. Last year, this package and another initiative called Options 100, offering subsidies including mortgage, legal and moving costs, enabled Fairclough to sell more than 100 properties.

This year the company has introduced the Regency purchase plan, for King & Queen

Wharf. This is similar to the 50-50 scheme but allows outright sale or a lower equity share by Fairclough. The key is a price reduced by 18-25 per cent, a 6.5 per cent mortgage for three years, free redundancy insurance and payment of legal fees. In the first six weeks there were 1,000 enquiries and 60 sales.

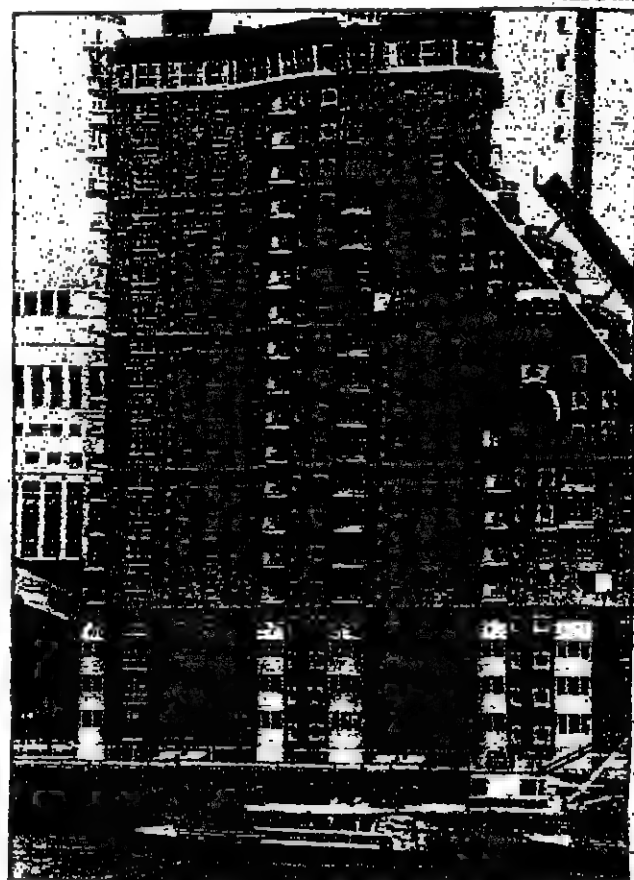
Hunting Gate Homes is involved in a joint project with British Waterways at Limehouse Basin, a 25-acre scheme phased over ten years to provide more than 600 homes, with shops, restaurants and offices, and a marina giving access to miles of inland waterways.

For this scheme, Hunting Gate is offering a 7.5 per cent mortgage subsidy for two years, with no deferral of interest, up to £100,000.

In the first phase, all the one-bedroom flats have been reserved, leaving two-bedroom and three-bedroom flats and town houses with three and four bedrooms. The flats with two bedrooms and two bathrooms are priced from £122,700 and the four-bedroom houses are £219,500.

Sarah Shelley, of Knight Frank & Rutley's Wapping office, accepts that the 50-50 share scheme is attractive, but some buyers will be unable to fulfil their obligations at the end of five years, or whatever period is chosen. They will merely have the benefit of the growth, if any, in their 50 per cent share and will then have to start from the bottom all over again.

In these schemes, and even in the case of subsidised mortgage packages, the purchase price has to be raised to



Impressive flats in Docklands: the riverside Cascades

pay their cost, though not by much for subsidised mortgages. Miss Shelley argues that the basic consideration is price. She says: "Some developers are content to be solely selling on that basis - no gimmicks, no fluff, but simply good value for money."

Knight Frank & Rutley has been offering flats in St Hilda's Wharf and Millers Wharf, both in Wapping, on that basis.

At St Hilda's Wharf the prices range from £130,000 for a one-bedroom flat to more

than £300,000 for a three-bedroom and £550,000 for a four-bedroom duplex. Two-bedroom flats at Millers Wharf are priced from £245,000 to £335,000.

"Provided a vendor is realistic a sale can be achieved, and certainly there is evidence of people trading up within the market to take advantage of lower prices on offer," Miss Shelley concludes. "Sales have taken place and the occupation rate has definitely increased during the past year."

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River traffic ready to flow smoothly

OLD Father Thames has a new offspring: a river bus service stretching for 12 miles through the centre of the capital.

As Docklands grows, so does the RiverBus service, with a fleet of 62-seat catamarans. The basic concept was a run every 20 minutes between Greenwich and Charing Cross, with stops at London Bridge on the south bank, and Swan Lane on the north side, serving financial workers in the City (Rodney Hobson writes).

However, in April the full service was extended to London City airport pier, where the boats are met by a bus shuttle from the airport.

Peter Warman, the RiverBus chief executive, says: "Our service to the airport used to be hourly. Since it was fully integrated into the Charing Cross to Greenwich run, I understand that a third of passengers at the airport have arrived by river."

The link also calls at West India pier on the Isle of Dogs. The trip from Charing Cross to the airport takes only 35 minutes. RiverBus intends eventually to operate a service every 20 minutes upriver to Chelsea, using new facilities at Cadogan pier.

Mr Warman says: "We feel there is a good demand. There is a large catchment area that is not served by the London underground."

RiverBus is building three vessels at a cost of £2.1 million. The first will be completed by the end of October and will be in service by the end of the year. As soon as all three are available the complete schedule can come

into operation. Mr Warman says income is running 30 per cent higher than a year ago. He says: "We are investing heavily. The opening of Canary Wharf will increase our traffic growth."



Water route: a quick and enjoyable way of travelling is to go by the RiverBus service

MORE DOCKLANDS CONNECTIONS

From Highbury / Islington to Canary Wharf by Route 277

Route 277 now links Highbury and Islington, Hageney and Mile End stations direct with the heart of Canary Wharf, the world's largest commercial development. Buses run every ten minutes during the day and every twenty minutes in the evenings. Monday to Saturday. Look for the tower. You can't miss it.



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The D1 Docklands Express links Waterloo and London Bridge Stations with the expanding commercial centre of London Docklands. The distinctive double-deck buses run every ten minutes in the peak and every twenty minutes during the day, Monday to Friday.



All LT Travelcards and bus passes are valid. For further details ring 071-222 1234 (24 hours) or 071-512 0464 (Mon - 6pm). London Docklands Development Corporation working with London Transport.



Some threw stones but today teamwork rules

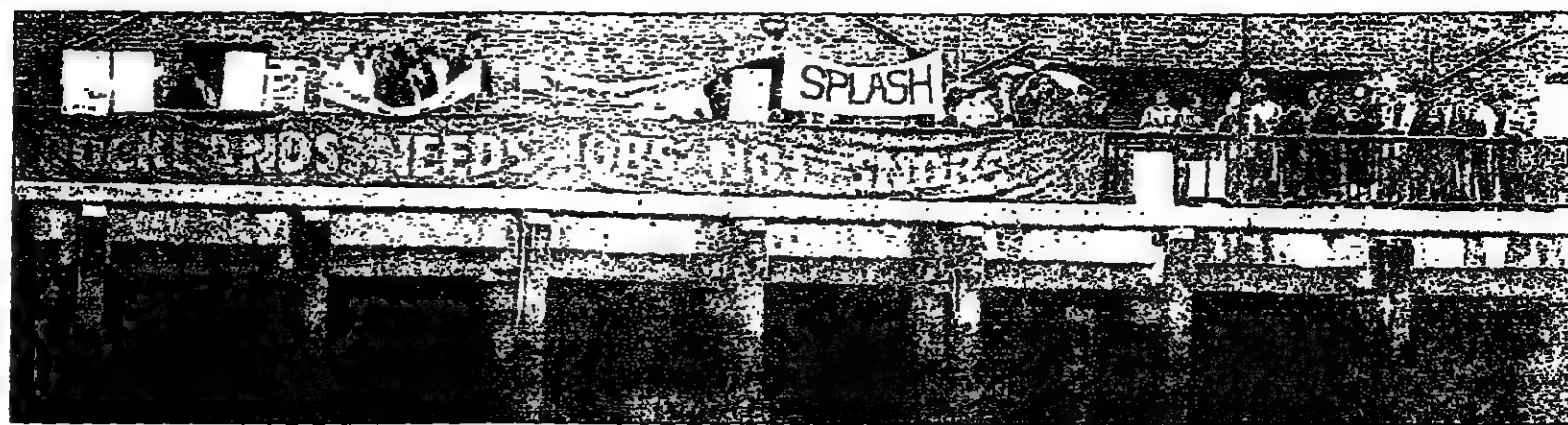
HARRY Luxton remembers the days when protesters marched against the London Docklands Development Corporation and threw stones (Rodney Hobson writes).

People argued that the corporation was an appointed boy and we should not support it," Mr Luxton says. "It was an elected local authority that was doing nothing. I felt the corporation was the one we should work with. It was only by partnership that we could get anything done at all. We have tried to build up a partnership with the corporation and with businesses. We

are relying on each other so much that I do not see why we should not work as a team." Mr Luxton, who is 72, was born in Bethnal Green and served on his local council for four years until 1953. Work took him to Tyneside where he also became a councillor before he and his wife, Marge, returned to settle in Docklands in 1970.

Mr Luxton says: "It is a real cross-section and it protects the interests of the community. It maintains a regular dialogue with the corporation, the borough council and other statutory bodies."

He concedes there has been disruption, saying: "It has been the largest building site in Europe. The indigenous population has had to put up with a lot of pollution from the building work and from the rapid increase in motor traffic."



Making a point: on the corporation's tenth anniversary, protesting residents of Docklands make their feelings known about the need for more jobs

for the new highway, but you should see the houses they were moved into."

However, the community umbrella organisation does not support everything that is done in Docklands. It has made representations to Parliament on the proposed

extension of the Docklands Light Railway under the Thames to Greenwich and Lewisham.

"People are concerned about the disruption to the large open space at Millwall Park and to Chapel House estate, one of the old residen-

tial estates on the island," Mr Luxton says. "Local people use the railway to travel into the City to work, and they fear that the trains will come in full from Lewisham and they will not be able to get on."

Residents also believe cheaper rental housing should have been provided, although this was against government policy. Young people are often forced to move away because they cannot rent in the area. Mr Luxton would like to see more cash for the community from the corporation in the light of local authority cuts.

He says: "There are plenty of youth clubs but the sad thing is that the local authority has reduced its financial support and, in some cases, abandoned the clubs. I believe the corporation has a role in ensuring that these organisations are maintained."

Tourism rises from the Victorian decay

The image of Docklands as a vibrant area emerging from Victorian decay has encouraged a wealth of leisure activities with the accent on recreation.

Nowhere is the desire to take off old images more evident than at the Design Museum at Butler's Wharf, the brainchild of Sir Terence Conran of Habitat 67 fame. Julian Whitmore, the museum's head of development, says: "When the museum was first opened it was seen as a temple of good taste, a product of the Eighties, but we have got beyond that."

The museum is keen to encourage visitors to take part in each of the four exhibitions held annually. The latest offering is "designing in everyday life". Exhibits range from cars to toothbrushes, from gardens to kitchens. Visitors can even sit in front of a mirror and design hair styles.

Mr Whitmore says: "We show things that people feel comfortable with, but they look at the objects in a different light." The concept clearly works. Mr Whitmore says: "Despite the fall in

A leisure business has emerged with its emphasis on people participation. Rodney Hobson looks at places to visit

tourism, we have not seen attendance figures drop off. We are getting 300,000 visitors a year."

He gives two reasons: closeness to Tower Bridge and good marketing. Educational visits, sponsored by Fiat, the car manufacturer, are also important. About 15,000 schoolchildren and students visit every term.

The highlight at the museum was the second birthday party earlier this month when 4,500 people enjoyed special events including a quiz, an antiques road show and a jazz band.

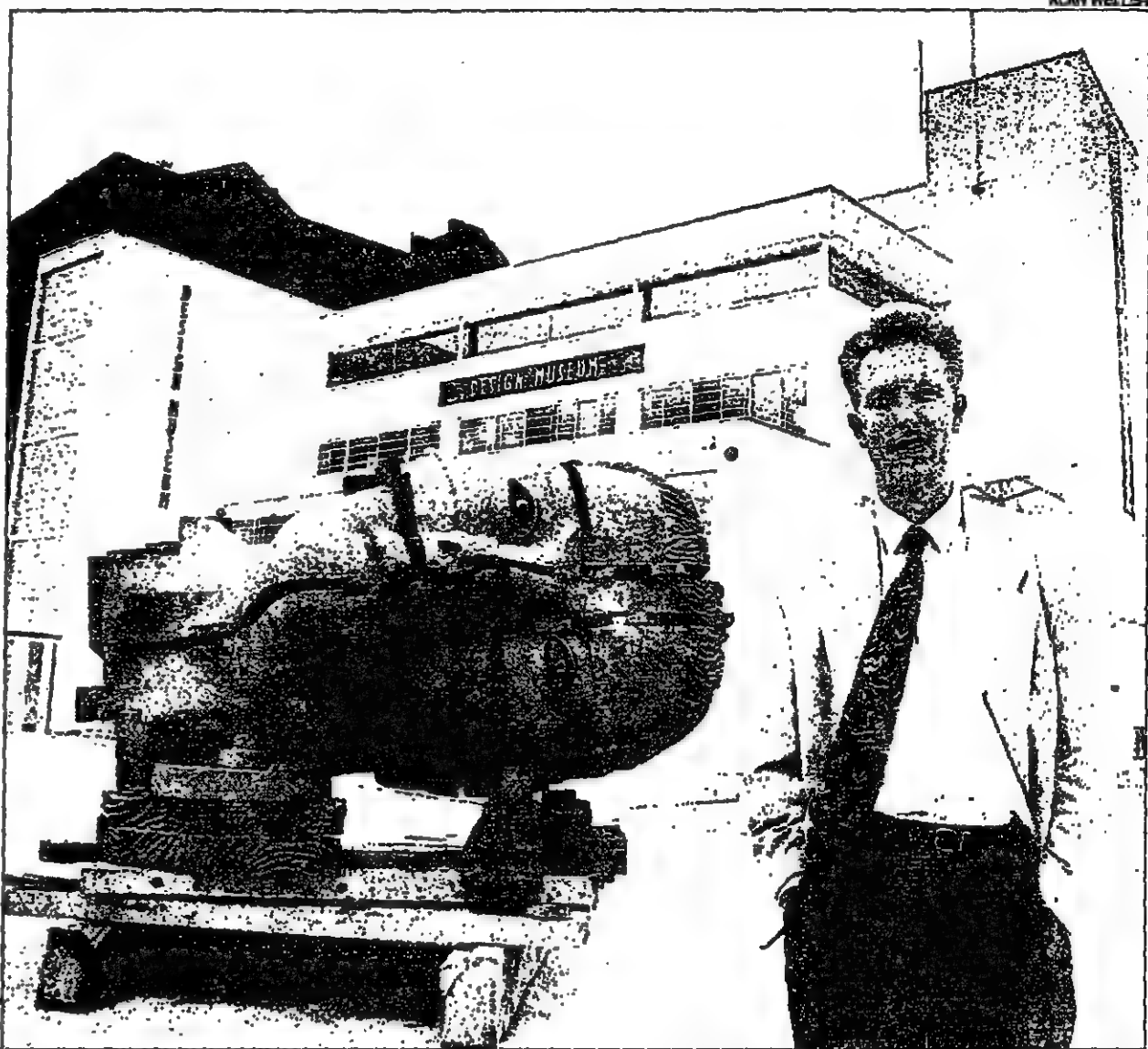
Life has been more of a struggle on the pirate ships moored at Tobacco Dock in Wapping. Trade has suffered, in tandem with the disappointing performance of the shopping centre, and Dean Penderville, better known to his shipmates as Redbeard, admits: "The number of visitors has not been as good as

we expected when we opened two years ago." The two ships, Three Sisters with an exhibition of piracy through the ages, and Sea Lark with its Treasure Island adventure, have managed to pay their way by cutting costs. There used to be a captain, two ship's masters and nine crew. Now there are three full-time and three part-time staff.

For the more active, water sports are available. Shadwell Basin alone has four angling clubs. There are believed to be more than 50 species of fish in Docklands.

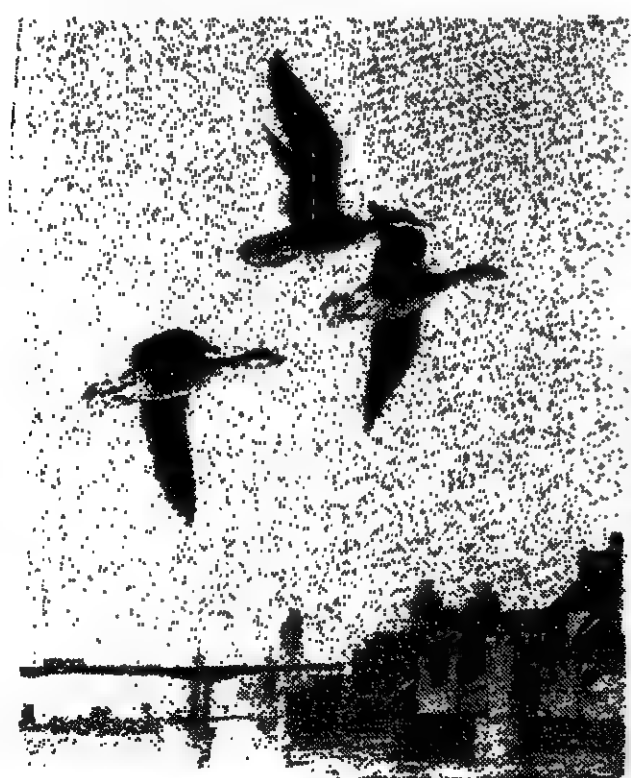
Shadwell Dock houses one of the biggest inner-city water sports centres in the country. It concentrates on providing training and experience for children aged 13 to 17 with canoeing, sailing, sailboarding and sub-aqua diving.

Landlubbers can try their skills on the two ski slopes at Beckton — one is 200 metres long and the other features bumps to test the experienced skier. Beckton claims to have the longest dry ski slope in England, built on the industrial waste of what was once Europe's largest gasworks.



Packing them in: 300,000 visit the Design Museum every year. Damian Whitmore is the head of development

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Jet travel will lift the dark clouds over airport future

THOSE involved with London City airport have been clinging to the belief that they will soon get the official go-ahead to extend the runway and open up the enterprise to a profitable future.

This had seemed a forlorn prospect as local objections appeared to be gaining ground and tens of thousands of potential passengers stayed away, preferring to make the long journey west to Heathrow or south to Gatwick.

The faith that the developer Mowlem always had in the idea of an airport within six miles of the centre of the City seems about to be rewarded.

After four years of struggling against mounting debts, and the apparent apathy of the travelling London businessman, senior officials are confident that they are poised for take-off.

"We are very bullish about the future indeed," says Bill Charnock, the airport's managing director.

"We now have local people constantly asking us when we are going to get on with the expansion and get the jets in. They are now convinced, as we have been all along, that the airport is not only quiet, but beneficial through its potential for providing local jobs and for generating growth in the area."

Airlines from Switzerland and Scandinavia have expressed a serious intention of opening routes and services with the British Aerospace 146 four-engined jet, which is

expected to be able to begin operations from the airport by April next year after the runway has been lengthened.

Mowlem invested more than £35 million in the airport, but was limited to using only propeller-driven De Havilland Dash 7 aircraft.

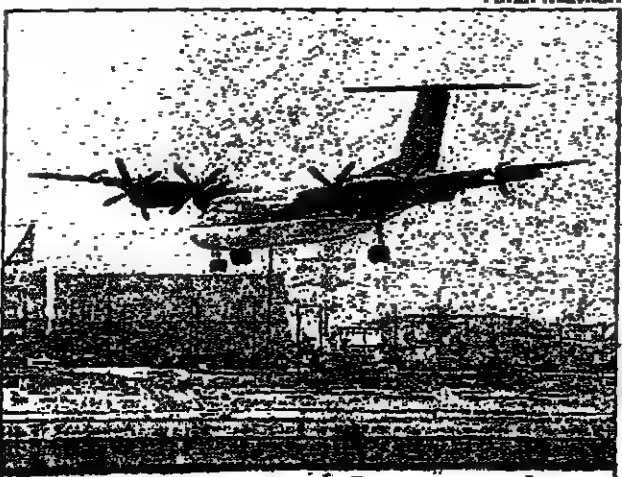
The two main carriers — Brymon and British Midland — were then forced to reduce services, despite linking with partners Air France and Sabena respectively, because of the recession. Passenger numbers have, therefore, remained at about 220,000 a year, far too few to turn the airport into a profit-maker.

The 146 will change that. With a range of 1,000 miles, instead of the Dash 7's 250, far more cities in Europe will be brought within reach. At about the time that the services come into operation, the road and rail access — long regarded as the biggest reason for avoiding the airport — will be nearing completion. The rail link, providing a 17-minute shuttle to the City, will be ready by the autumn of 1992, and the new road going west towards Tower Hill will be opened in 1993.

Provided the plans to begin jet operations are endorsed after next month's public enquiry, the innovation will have been worth the trouble. If the plans are rejected, London City Airport will be written down in history as an idea that was ahead of its time.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

PETER TREMOR



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ATHLETICS

Cram is chosen for Tokyo despite his fourth place in trial

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S selectors picked a few small arguments yesterday but avoided a big one when they announced that Steve Cram would be in their team for the world championships in Tokyo next month. Cram may not be the athlete he was, but who better for a place at 1,500 metres after Peter Elliott and Matthew Yates?

Kevin McKay, a world junior champion three years ago now scrapping with the adults, was the challenger. He had beaten Cram at the Panasonic AAA/WAAA championships at Birmingham on Saturday, by a margin enough, he thought, to justify the place. But the selectors concluded otherwise.

McKay took the news without vitriol, but said: "The selectors have made the wrong decision." He had finished second to Yates in what was the official trial. While McKay kicked in the home straight, Cram faded badly enough for Tony Morrell to come past him as well.

"Cram finished fourth and was not even close to me," McKay said. As Cram buckled, McKay flew past. But McKay should have known that only a fast time, and plenty of space between himself and Cram, might have persuaded the selectors.

Cram has raced only three times this summer, after knee tendinitis delayed his start until last weekend. In none of them has he broken 3min 40sec, indeed his fastest was his 3min 41.57sec in Birmingham. Cram will be expected to move up a gear in Monte Carlo on Saturday. "I will know in the next couple of weeks if I am going to be good enough to do myself justice in Tokyo," Cram said. If not, he will stand down for McKay.

"I feel for McKay. He must not allow himself to get depressed about missing out, but should keep training hard." In other words, follow Steve Heard's example. Last year, Heard was omitted at 800 metres when he had greater claim than McKay has now.

He considered retirement but resolved to prove himself.

Every time he played his telephone answering machine, Heard was reminded of the day when he was told he had been left out of the team for Split. A message to inform him had been left and he could not erase it from the machine's tape. "It acted as a constant prod," Heard said. This year, Heard will accompany Tom McKean and Brian Whittle over two laps in Tokyo. Thus David Sharpe, the European silver medal-winner, will be left at home.

John Regis won a 100 metres bronze in Split to complement his 200 metres victory, but will run only the longer distance in Tokyo. It is a change of mind from two months ago when he said: "I will definitely do both."

The inevitable contentious selections in a team of 90 come in the men's 400 metres, discus and javelin. At 400 metres, Paul Sanders was fourth in the trial, failing to figure in the spectacular blanket finish of Derek Redmond (46.07sec), Mark Richardson (46.08) and Ade Mafe (46.09), but has been selected. "Sanders has the better record this year and this was the only time he has slipped up," Frank Dick, Britain's chief coach, and a selector, said.

Colin Mackenzie has been chosen for the javelin, though he has an inferior best distance this year and was beaten on Saturday by Roald Bradstock. "Mackenzie is the man on the way through and has been consistent this year," Dick said.

Simon Williams, unable to get a place in the shot, his Commonwealth gold medal-winning event, has been named in the discus, although Peter Gordon, aged 40, has thrown the further. Carl Thackeray has been given one extra week to achieve the 10,000 metres qualifying time he still needs.



Spaced out: Sangamore gives chase in vain as Generous extends his big-race superiority to seven lengths at Ascot on Saturday

Generous takes high rank among best

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE racing world was still pondering yesterday the extraordinary feat of Generous's record seven-length triumph in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot on Saturday.

Geoffrey Gibbs, the senior Jockey Club handicapper, considers that Prince Fald Salaman's dual Derby winner can eventually prove himself one of the two best horses to have raced in Europe since the international classifications were introduced in 1977.

"I think we can say without fear of contradiction that it was the best performance since Dancing Brave won the Arc," Gibbs said. "The way he put four lengths between himself and the rest of the field so quickly was quite staggering. If he can repeat that performance in Paris, he would show himself to be the equal of Dancing Brave, who is the best of the last 14 years," he said.

For the record, Generous eventually beat Sangamore by seven lengths, easing up. Rock

Hopper finished third, a length behind the 1990 French Derby winner and a length-and-a-half ahead of Terimon.

Bruce Raymond, Rock Hopper's highly-experienced rider, afterwards paid Generous the supreme compliment by saying that the winner was the best horse he had seen.

Saturday's winner is the sixth horse to land the triple of the English and Irish Derbys, and Britain's most important all-aged test. A personal opinion is that this victory in the Arc would be Generous's ranked alongside Nijinsky, Mill Reef and Dancing Brave as one of the four best middle-distance performers of recent times.

In the Times on Saturday, Paul Cole said that Generous was the complete racehorse. Yesterday, the trainer added: "He has done it now. If you take a line through Rock Hopper and Generous, it's there for all to read. He has beaten the three-year-olds and the four-year-olds. He has made the running and he has been held up. He has won on soft and firm, over five furlongs as a two-year-old in May and

now over a mile-and-a-half the following July."

Once again Alan Munro showed the coolness and tactical flair on the 6-4 on favourite that he had previously displayed at Epsom and the Curragh.

"Mr Cole told me that we were taking on professional racehorses. So he didn't want me either making the running or sticking to the inside, where we might get hampered by dead horses falling back. So far, Dancing Brave is the best I have seen, but Generous is some machine."

Although Generous was on the jog and sweating in the preliminaries, the Caelion colt's muscular robustness reflected the highest credit on his trainer. And the three-year-old had made the same marked physical improvement since the 2,000 Guineas as was so evident when The Minstrel won the same race in 1977.

Having now collected £1,147,092, Generous will go to Paris on the first Sunday in October but on the trail of Fiddler's all-time record for a British-trained money-earner of

£1,403,900. However, no decision will be taken about the colt's long-term future for the time being.

"It's extremely unlikely that he will be back next year," Cole said. "The better he does, the less will there be for him to prove. Every owner needs to capitalise on his good horses to remain in business. Of course I'd like to have him for another season, but it's not up to me."

Sangamore restored his reputation by finishing a credible second. "That's probably just about as good as he is," Roger Channon said. "After all, he's beaten Rock Hopper and Terimon decisively. He's not a superstar, just a good, tough horse."

Rock Hopper also enhanced his reputation in defeat and will now be trained for the Japan Cup. "The firm ground out there should suit him well," said Michael Stoute. "He's collected £28,354 - down from £1,160 on last year - were given plenty to cheer about when Lydia Pearce, disqualified after passing the post first on If Memory Serves last year, gained

a popular victory on Sasurion in the Century Diamond Ladies' Stakes."

"When the stalls opened, I said to myself keep straight for God's sake," said the rider, Mrs Abbotson, who also owned If Memory Serves, but I owe it all to her and John Gosden."

The Princess Margaret Stakes saw a decisive triumph for the Irish when Bezzie outpaced Tweak and Storm Ring. Although he has held a licence since 1934, this was Con Collins's first Ascot victory.

Big-race details

2.20 KING GEORGE VI AND THE QUEEN ELIZABETH DIAMOND STAKES (Group 1) Generous (6) 7/2, Sangamore (4) 5/2, Rock Hopper (3) 4/1, Terimon (5) 11/2, Fiddler (8) 13/2, The Minstrel (9) 15/2, The Duke (10) 17/2, The Duke of Devonshire (11) 19/2, The Duke of York (12) 21/2, The Duke of Gloucester (13) 23/2, The Duke of Edinburgh (14) 25/2, The Duke of Kent (15) 27/2, The Duke of Cornwall (16) 29/2, The Duke of Devon (17) 31/2, The Duke of Somerset (18) 33/2, The Duke of Devonshire (19) 35/2, The Duke of York (20) 37/2, The Duke of Gloucester (21) 39/2, The Duke of Edinburgh (22) 41/2, The Duke of Kent (23) 43/2, The Duke of Cornwall (24) 45/2, The Duke of Devon (25) 47/2, The Duke of Somerset (26) 49/2, The Duke of Devonshire (27) 51/2, The Duke of York (28) 53/2, The Duke of Gloucester (29) 55/2, The Duke of Edinburgh (30) 57/2, The Duke of Kent (31) 59/2, The Duke of Cornwall (32) 61/2, The Duke of Devon (33) 63/2, The Duke of Somerset (34) 65/2, The Duke of Devonshire (35) 67/2, The Duke 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Lloyd confident Warwickshire can take the flag

By PETER BALL

LEICESTER (final day of three): Warwickshire (34pts) beat Leicestershire (3pts) by an innings and 44 runs

WARWICKSHIRE'S tenure at the top of the Britannia Assurance championship table is beginning to look permanent. They won with the efficiency of champions yesterday, bowling out Leicestershire a second time with minimum fuss to claim their eighth victory of the season and move 44 points clear at the top.

"The players in this team will never have a better chance to win the championship," Andy Lloyd, the captain, said yesterday. "We will be unlucky if ten wickets are not enough to win it."

Such confidence is hard to argue with. The pursuing pack have games in hand, but on paper Warwickshire have the easier run-in, with two matches against both Northamptonshire and Worcestershire, and games against Surrey, Glamorgan and Somerset.

If we have a hot, dry August with dusty pitches for the spinners, they may be found wanting with the balance tilting in Essex's favour, but on form they are an impressively well-balanced side.

English Assurance Partnership Team						
	P	W	L	D	Rt	Pts
Warwickshire (5)	15	8	2	5	3	103
Essex (2)	15	7	3	5	47	38
Gloucestershire (9)	15	7	3	5	39	145
Notts (14)	14	4	2	7	34	42
Surrey (5)	12	5	2	5	26	31
Derbyshire (12)	13	4	2	7	27	46
Kent (16)	14	4	1	9	31	33
Leicesters (15)	14	4	3	7	29	137
Gloucestershire (6)	15	3	3	9	29	111
Sussex (17)	15	2	2	11	39	40
Hampshire (23)	14	1	5	8	36	39
Yorkshire (11)	14	1	5	8	33	87
Northants (11)	14	1	4	9	29	38
Somerset (15)	13	1	2	10	29	25
Worce (4)	12	1	2	9	23	66
Leicesters (17)	14	0	1	13	26	54
Midlands (7)	14	0	1	13	22	32

(1880 positions in brackets)

TENNIS

Spaniards lift cup in thrilling finish

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

FEW could complain at the final. Fifty-six countries, ten days of tennis, crowds of more than 77,000 and the destiny of the Federation Cup hanging on the final set of the doubles.

If some of the tennis through the week had not set the pulse racing, there was no denying the tension as Arantza Sánchez Vicario and Conchita Martínez beat the more experienced American pair, Zina Garrison and Gigi Fernandez, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1 to take the cup to Spain for the first time, along with the \$100,000 (£62,500) first prize.

It was a triumph for the Spaniards and for Sue Mappin, the tournament director, who turned her idea of a festival for tennis into reality. The Lawn Tennis Association might have to foot some fairly hefty bills over the next few months, despite gate receipts reportedly in excess of £400,000 for the week, but they now have a first-rate facility which could host the Federation Cup again in 1994.

With the top seeds playing the defending champions, it was always going to be tight. Jennifer Capriati came back from the brink to give the United States an early lead. Sánchez Vicario brought the Spaniards level. Both over-turned recent form.

Capriati had lost to Martínez on an outside court in the last 16 at the French Open and Fernández had beaten Sánchez Vicario on the way to the Wimbledon semi-finals. The former had more relevance than the latter, because the green, hard courts in Nottingham are almost as slow as the red clay in Paris, and for much of the two hours and 13 minutes of the match, Martínez seemed sure to repeat the dose.

Not the most astute of tacticians, Capriati looked increasingly dejected by the mixture of moonballs, deep sliced backhands and park-court services, on which the Spaniards' game is built.

Time and again, she threatened to attack the net and take Martínez's high topspin on the full, only to lose her nerve at the vital moment and scuttle back behind her beloved baseline again. Martínez has no such problems. She only comes to the net at changeovers.

The Spanish No. 2 has lived largely in the shadow of Sánchez Vicario and has never played Wimbledon so she is hardly a household name in Nottingham. She has, however, been a regular in the top ten for the last two years and is a consummate defensive player.

Her repertoire is based on the ability to keep the ball in court longer than most of her opponents and, though that does not always make for riveting entertainment, it makes her cussedly difficult to beat.

Only when she stood two points from defeat did Capriati throw caution to the wind. Having lost the first set, she had broken twice in the second, was broken back immediately and at 5-6, 0-30 on her own service, could retreat no further. Twice she punched backhand volleys for winners to force the tie-break.

It had taken her nearly an hour and three-quarters to unlock the door, but when she had done so, she left through it with abandon. After the Spaniard had needed treatment for a blister on her right foot, Capriati took the tie-break, 7-3, and reeled off five straight games in the deciding set.

For once, Martínez had no answer and both she and the man with the Spanish flag, who stood at each changeover with his eyes fixed on the Spanish team, looked more and more sorrowful.

Perhaps he was working on the Americans, because Fernández seemed in a trance throughout. She made error after error, serving a double-fault to give Sánchez the decisive break, in the ninth game of the second set, and put the spotlight firmly on the doubles team.

The total attendance of 77,775 at the Federation Cup beat the previous record of 62,000, set in Vancouver in 1987.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: Spain to Germany, 3-0 (Sánchez Vicario to G. Müller, 6-4, 6-1; Sánchez Vicario to A. R. Müller, 6-4, 6-1; Sánchez Vicario to A. R. Müller, 6-4, 6-1). United States to Germany, 3-0 (Garrison to Sánchez Vicario, 6-4, 6-1; Fernandez to Sánchez Vicario, 6-4, 6-1; Fernandez to Sánchez Vicario, 6-4, 6-1).



Desperate defence: Capriati, of the United States, battling back from the brink of defeat to overcome Martínez

BASEBALL

League listens as money talks

By ROBERT KIRLEY

SIX cities spent nearly a year wooing the National League but only Miami and Denver will play ball on opening day in 1993. They were logical choices this month for the league's first expansion since 1969. Located more than 600 miles from any other major-league town, each exploits virgin territory.

The Florida Marlins will tap into a huge Hispanic following and the Colorado Rockies will be the only team in their time zone. Both have television markets ranked in the top 20. Most important, both have money. In 1977, when the American League last grew, a guy with seven million bucks and a knack for civic puffery could aspire to start a club. Today the entry fee is \$95 million (\$56 million). Each of the 12 existing National League teams will reap \$12.3 million of the ante. The 14 American League sides will

bank \$3 million apiece.

Denver, backed by a drug-chain, was helped by \$30 million from the Adolph Coors brewery and a value-added tax increase in six counties.

Tampa-St. Pete, seeking tenants for its flashy Florida Suncoast Dome, lost out when its backers withdrew. In Washington, no chequebook could tame the neighbourhood that RFK stadium overlooks.

As Craig Biggio, the Houston Astros player, said, "I'd have to get my wife an Uzi to take to the game with her." Washington has already lost two ball clubs. Also, the Orioles, who will move into a new stadium next year, reside in nearby Baltimore.

The snubbed cities might try to lure struggling organisations, such as the Astros or the Seattle Mariners, which would win more games than the Marlins or the Rockies. Many observers argue that the talent has been spread too thin already.

Bob Brenly, a catcher turned broadcaster, said: "The last two years have been very good." Imagine 30 borderline hurlers promoted to the major leagues. A leading batter such as Tony Gwynn, of the San Diego Padres, could become the first 400 hitter in 50 years. Gwynn, 32, is a .300 hitter in 1990. He is a .300 hitter in 1990. He is a .300 hitter in 1990.

CYCLING

Indurain storms into Paris as total Tour victor

PARIS (Agencies) — Miguel Indurain, of Spain, defended his Tour de France leader's yellow jersey all the way to the finishing line in Paris yesterday, successfully escaping a crash that threatened the final charge down the Champs-Élysées.

As the peloton massed for the sprint at the end of the 178-km 22nd stage from Melon, Djamolidin Abdurapov, of the Soviet Union, the sprinting revelation of the Tour and known as the Tashkent TGV (high speed train), hit an advertising hoarding. He fell heavily, bringing down another, as the pack swerved clear.

Abdurapov lay dazed on the ground, his face bleeding, but another Soviet rider, Dmitri Konishev, got his wheel across the line first ahead of the former East German champion, Olaf Ludwig.

Indurain finished safely in the pack to become the fourth Spaniard to win the Tour after Federico Bahamontes in 1959, Luis Ocaña in 1973 and Pedro Delgado, in 1988. Two Italians, Gianni Bugno, 36m 36sec behind, and Claudio Chiappucci, held on to the next two positions.

Greg LeMond, faced with finishing seventh, the lowest in a Tour since his debut in 1984, attempted to win the final stage, breaking away around midpoint and building up more than a

one-minute advantage as he entered the Champs-Élysées, cheered on by the throng.

But the pack, led by Indurain's Banesto team, increased its pace and caught him, making it a race for the sprinters. Abdurapov, wearing the green jersey as points leader — he had also won two stages — went to the right, put his head down for a victory charge but tumbled into a Coca-Cola advertising can projecting from the barrier.

He never made the finish, laying on the ground for several minutes as a shock before being taken to hospital for treatment for cuts to his face. Although he did not complete the last few metres of the course, race officials left him as the official points leader (500,000 francs prize) since there was a medical reason for him not finishing.

Konishev's final stage victory was his second of the Tour after winning in Aix-les-Bains on Thursday and took the tally of Soviet wins to a remarkable five.

On Saturday, a Colombian, Reynaldo Montoya, in 52nd position, was given a suspended three-month ban and fined \$4,700 for failing a drug test. He tested positive last Wednesday after the 18th stage and a second independent test gave the same result. He was also relegated to last place.

RESULTS 21st stage (Lugny to Melon, 178 km): 1. D. Konishev (USSR), 4h 11m 45s; 2. G. LeMond (FRA), 4h 12m 15s; 3. M. Indurain (ESP), 4h 12m 25s; 4. C. Chiappucci (ITA), 4h 12m 35s; 5. G. Bugno (ITA), 4h 12m 45s; 6. P. Delgado (ESP), 4h 12m 55s; 7. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 05s; 8. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 15s; 9. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 25s; 10. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 35s; 11. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 45s; 12. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 13m 55s; 13. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 05s; 14. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 15s; 15. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 25s; 16. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 35s; 17. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 45s; 18. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 14m 55s; 19. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 05s; 20. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 15s; 21. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 25s; 22. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 35s; 23. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 45s; 24. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 15m 55s; 25. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 16m 05s; 26. J. L. Planas (ESP), 4h 16m 15s; 27. J. L. 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● RUGBY UNION 31
● RACING 32, 33
● CRICKET 34

Mansell makes it three as title moves into sight

From NORMAN HOWELL
in HOCKENHEIM

NIGEL Mansell, driving a Williams-Renault, won his third consecutive Formula One grand prix here yesterday, moving to within eight points of Ayrton Senna in the drivers' championship with seven rounds to go.

It was the first time that the Englishman had won three grands prix in a row and his victory, ahead of his team colleague, Riccardo Patrese, and Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, was greeted by a great roar from the thousands of British followers who soon after invaded the track waving Union Jacks.

Mansell's win was all the sweeter for the fact that Senna, the world champion, from Brazil, ran out of fuel in his McLaren-Honda on the last lap, surrendering fourth place and three championship points in the process.

As a result, Williams-Renault has now overtaken McLaren-Honda by one point in the constructors' championship, confirming Frank Williams's cautious optimism before the race. He had said: "There is a possibility we might be able to do battle with the McLarens here and take some points from them."

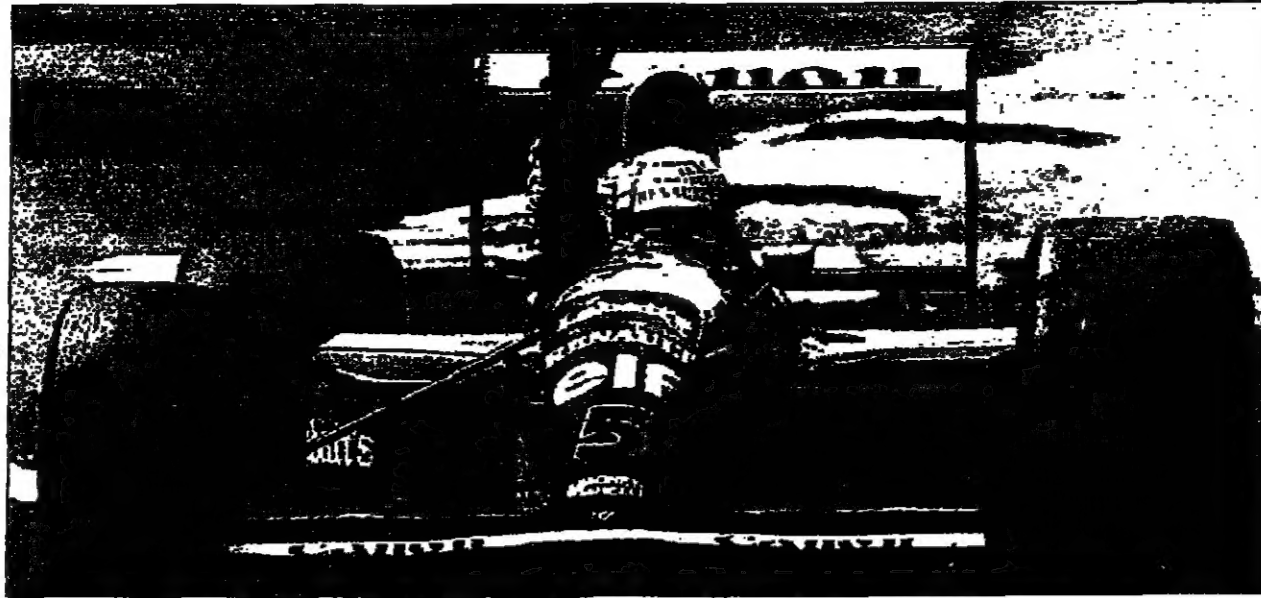
There were many contests in this race in Germany, but

the Williams was vastly superior to both McLaren and Ferrari, as that is the only area of the car that seems to have any weakness. The rest is powerful, as Patrese, in particular, showed in moving from sixth place to second, thus regaining the position from which he had started.

It seems likely that these difficulties were caused by the gearbox, as that is the only area of the car that seems to have any weakness. The rest is powerful, as Patrese, in particular, showed in moving from sixth place to second, thus regaining the position from which he had started.

Even so, Patrese, who has come back from two disappointing races to help the team pose a serious threat to the long-standing domination of McLaren, was dissatisfied with his performance. He said: "I think I had better take a quick course in Formula One starting techniques. My last few have been appalling."

But if Williams is to end the season on top, there is still plenty to do, as Mansell was at pains to point out. "The next seven races are going to be very, very tough. I still must take each race as it comes, because reliability is still the key to winning the championship. In fact, I really don't want to comment on our championship chances. It's a long way off."



On the crest of a wave: Mansell acknowledges his win in the German grand prix yesterday, his third in a row

ship. In fact, I really don't want to comment on our championship chances. It's a long way off."

Beside the two beaming Williams drivers, the podium was occupied by Alesi, who saved the day for Ferrari after his team colleague, Alain Prost, and Senna had had another contretemps, on the 38th lap, when the Ferrari tried to take the McLaren on the outside. Senna kept his racing line, and forced Prost to brake so late that he could not

steer the car into the first right hander in the chicane. He ended up over the cones, and out of the race.

Prost blamed Senna. "He did everything to stop me passing him. He weaved, he braked early and then he drove across me," Prost said. "If Goughlin and Suzuki can be fined for minor things in the last races, then he should be fined too. It is the same rules for everyone. I shall have no problems starting with him in Hungary, but if he gets in my way again like that I shall just have to push him off."

seconds were hard fought for, I can tell you. Then the tyres picked up more grip and I just eased away."

As simple as that. As the McLarens used to do, the Williams have acquired that effortless way of dominating races, and it must be hard for Ron Dennis and Senna, in particular, seeing their dominance slip away. The Brazilian was too upset to speak, while it is bound to be a stormy next few days, both in Surrey and in Japan, as the top men from both teams will have to sort out what happened to their once all-powerful, and now thirsty, cars.

It was a great day for another British team: Jordan had both cars finish in the points, Andrea de Cesaris fifth, Bertrand Gachot sixth. The team lies fifth in the constructors' championship, an extraordinary achievement for first-timers in Formula One. Eddie Jordan is being courted by engine manufacturers, ready to offer him more than anybody could have imagined at the start of the season. His performance, powered by "old" Ford engines, is particularly embarrassing for the Benetton team. Their more powerful Ford engine trails the Jordans when push comes to shove, testimony to the small team's design and engineering ability.

RACE DETAILS

Race distance: 45 laps, 306.050km
1. N. Mansell (GB), Williams Renault, 1m 29.661sec (av speed 224.020km/h); 2. R. Patrese (IT), Williams Renault, at 12.779sec; 3. J. Alesi (FR), Ferrari, 17.618; 4. G. Berger (Austria), McLaren Honda, 32.651; 5. A. de Cesaris (IT), Jordan Ford, 1min 17.557sec; 6. B. Gachot (FR), Jordan Ford, 1:40.605; 7. A. Senna (BR), McLaren Honda; 8. P. Moreno (ES), Benetton Ford; 9. T. Boutsen (Bel), Ligier Lamborghini; 10. E. Piro (IT), Dallara Judd, all 1 lap; 11. M. Brundage (GB), Brabham Yamaha; 12. M. Blundell (GB), Brabham Yamaha, both 2 laps; 13. S. Modena (IT), Tyrrell-Honda, 4 laps. Fastest lap: Patrese, 1min 43.585sec (238.434 km/h), track record.

WORLD DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP (after 9 rounds): 1. Senna, 51pts; 2. Mansell, 43; 3. Patrese, 25; 4. A. Prost (Fr), 21; 5. Berger, 19; 6. N. Piquet (Br), 15; 7. Alesi, 12; equal 8. Modena and de Cesaris, 9; 10. Moreno, 5; equal 11. J. J. Lehto (Fin) and Gachot, 4; 12. P. Martini (Fr), 3; equal 14. M. Hakkinen (Fin) and S. Nakajima (Japan), equal 16. J. Bailey (GB), A. Suda (Japan), P. F. and E. Bernard (Fr). 1.

WORLD CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP: 1. Williams, 71pts; 2. McLaren, 70; 3. Ferrari, 33; 4. Benetton, 23; 5. Jordan, 12; 6. Tyrrell, 11; 7. Dallara, 5; equal 8. Minardi and Lotus, 3; 10. Lola, 2.

LEADING FINAL PRACTICE TIMES: 1. Mansell, 1min 37.467sec; 2. Senna, 1:37.940; 3. Patrese, 1:38.148; 4. Senna, 1:38.237; 5. Alesi, 1:38.391; 6. Prost, 1:38.422; 7. de Cesaris, 1:40.387; 8. Piquet, 1:40.503; 9. Martini, 1:40.596; 10. Gachot, 1:41.443.

Brave England denied by masterful Richards

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

EDGBASTON (fourth day of five): West Indies beat England by seven wickets

TEN years ago, English cricket was absorbing a second successive outlandish victory over Australia, secured on a sunny Sunday at Edgbaston by a deafening, disbelieving crowd. Only a hopeless romantic could have believed in a repeat in the fourth Cornhill Test against West Indies yesterday, yet it threatened to happen until Vivian Richards arrived at the crease.

Having, at lunchtime on Saturday, been staring at the likelihood of an innings defeat inside three days, it was achievement enough for England to bat another seven hours and set a target of 152. But when Phillip DeFreitas was compensated for his first-innings misfortune by sweeping away the first three West Indies batsmen in his opening five overs, the match was on

course to be one of the most remarkable in Test history.

A crowd that had been resigned to a swift defeat had swelled virtually to fill the ground. The audience began to believe in an unimaginable outcome and created the atmosphere of a bull ring as West Indies stumbled to 24 for three just before tea. It took Richards at his masterful best to subdue them.

Richards's dignity would not permit the prospect of losing his final Test series. When he ensured that he could not, with a straight six to win the game, his team-mates sprinted from the dressing-room to carry him off the field on their shoulders. Richards punched the air repeatedly, joy and justification competing for his face. It was an emotional coda to a day of high drama.

In 1981, Australia, chasing 150 on a Sunday, had looked to have the game won at 87 for three when Ian Botham, high on the adrenalin of his famous

innings at Headingley, grabbed the ball and took five wickets for one run.

Yesterday, valiantly though their three seamers bowled, England lacked the magician to turn a marvellous fightback into an unforgettable victory.

Perhaps they lacked Botham; certainly, they lacked a fourth seam bowler, for Graham Gooch, the England captain, turned only reluctantly and belatedly to his slow bowler, Illingworth, and with predictably little effect.

He may have the curiosity on his CV of having had his last ball in Test cricket hit for six.

This, however, was not the day to bemoan England's shortcomings, but rather to admire their spirit. Until Richards and Carl Hooper settled the issue with a calm, commanding and unbroken stand of 133, it had been a day of sheer perversity to rival the best of Test cricket's rearguard actions.

At their low point on Saturday, England, setting off with a deficit of 104, stood at five for three. They lost six wickets clearing the arrears and were only 40 runs on when their eighth wicket fell. The pitch was treacherous, its bounce scandalously uneven, and England did well to take the game into a fourth day, thus sparing 16,000 ticketholders from being told that they had wasted their money.

By Saturday's close, however, Derek Pringle was already more than two hours into an innings which was to become his best for England and one of the most obstinate ever played. The slowest half-century in Test history, by Trevor Bailey, occupied three minutes short of six hours; Pringle had been batting five hours and four minutes for his 45 when he was the last

Englishman out at 2.30 yesterday.

If Pringle was a strokeless martyr, Chris Lewis tackled the situation in an entirely different fashion. His recall had already been vindicated in part by his capture of five late wickets on Saturday. Now, he demonstrated the absurdity of his position at No. 10 with an innings that contained many of the best strokes of the match.

He made 65 out of a ninth-wicket stand worth 92 and was so distraught at driving Ambrose to cover that he was still mouthing self-recriminations as he entered the dressing-room. He need not fret while he patiently still has progress to make before being thought of as a genuine all-rounder, this thrilling exhibition guarantees that he will have the chance to do so within this England side.

Richards was handicapped by the absence of Walsh with a shin injury, and again he set only one slip in the belief that catches simply do not carry there on pitches such as this. His bowlers, however, looked tired, and with the pitch still slower than on previous days, they were taken on by the loose-limbed Lewis. Patterson was twice driven and hooked for majestic fours. Patterson looked bemused; Richards showed the first trace of anxiety.

Lewis was well on the way to seeing off the second new ball when he was well caught by the substitute, Lambert, but it was another hour before the final wicket fell, to a catch by Logie who, ironically, had missed a simpler chance to dismiss Pringle in single figures on Saturday evening.

Approaching their task more frenetically than was necessary, West Indies lost Haynes and Richardson in the seventh over, both well held at second slip as they played forcing shots off the back foot. When Simmons was trapped leg-before to one that did not bounce, DeFreitas had taken three for nought in seven balls and the crowd was beside itself. If Richards had gone early, and he had more than one escape, then a gripping match, albeit played on a grimly unsatisfactory wicket, might have had a different conclusion.

A true Test, page 34
Photograph, page 34
Warwickshire win, page 34

Emotion hits captain

VIVIAN Richards, the West Indies captain, who was chaired off the Edgbaston pitch by his players after yesterday's seven-wicket victory, said: "It was very emotional at the end. The odd tear or two did drop because it's like that, when you think you've worked hard and been rewarded."

have been chaired off a field in England were during my Somerset days. "We were a bit low at 24 for three," Richards said. "My innings gave me a lot of satisfaction, particularly as I was disappointed with the way I got out in the first innings. I was determined to prove Viv Richards can be a responsible sort of a guy."

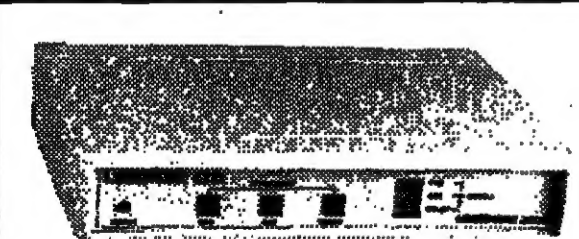


Raising a smile: but though DeFreitas enjoyed this dismissal of Simmons, West Indies celebrated victory

FULL SCOREBOARD FROM EDGBASTON

West Indies won toss									
ENGLAND: First Innings									
*G A Gooch b Marshall	46	6s	4s	4s	132	79			
Played round quick bowler									
H Morris c Dujon b Patterson	3				9	9			
Edged back defensive shot to wicketkeeper									
M A Atherton b Walsh	16		2	60	46				
Played back to ball angling to leg									
G A Hick c Ambrose b Marshall	19		3	147	104				
Edged straight to first slip									
A J Lamb b Marshall	9		1	40	29				
Playing across as ball angled to leg									
M R Ramprakash c Logie b Walsh	28		3	108	84				
Edged straight to first slip									
TR C Russell c Richardson b Ambrose	12			42	28				
Edged straight to first slip									
D R Pringle b Ambrose	2			15	12				
Batted by outswinger - hit off stump									
M R Ramprakash c Richardson b Marshall	10		1	47	32				
Edged straight to first slip									
C G Lewis b Marshall	13		1	32	24				
Playing across as ball angled to leg									
R K Illingworth not out	0			10	2				
Extras (lb 4, lb 3, nb 23)	30								
Total (70.4 overs, 330mins)	168								
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6 (Gooch 2 not out, 2-63 (Gooch 30, 3-66 (Hick 9), 4-108 (Pringle 12), 5-129 (Ramprakash 10), 6-159 (Ramprakash 28), 7-163 (Patterson 29), 8-163 (DeFreitas 7).									
ENGLAND: Second Innings									
*G A Gooch b Patterson	40	6s	4s	4s	100	91			
Played round quick bowler									
H Morris b Patterson	1				7	6			
Playing back - beaten off pitch									
M A Atherton c Hooper b Patterson	1				2	8			
G A Hick b Ambrose	1				9	8			
Beaten between bat and pad									
Edged straight to first slip									
M R Ramprakash c Dujon b Marshall	25		3	108	74				
Edged straight to first slip									
M R Ramprakash c Logie b Walsh	25		3	104	74				
Edged straight to first slip									
TR C Russell c Dujon b Patterson	0			12	9				
Then edged to keeper									
D R Pringle c Logie b Marshall	45		4	304	237				
Edged straight to first slip									
M R Ramprakash c Logie b Marshall	65		10	145	94				
Edged straight to first slip									
R K Illingworth not out	5			58	40				
Extras (lb 5, lb 21, nb14)	40								
Total (108.4 overs, 470mins)	255								
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2 (Gooch 1 not out, 2-4 (Gooch 2, 3-5 (Gooch 2), 4-71 (Gooch 32), 5-94 (Ramprakash 9), 6-96 (Ramprakash 11), 7-127 (Pringle 12), 8-144 (Pringle 27), 9-236 (Pringle 30).									
WEST INDIES: First Innings									
P V Simmons c Hick b Lewis	28	6s	4s	4s	56	52			
Edged to second slip, diving to left									
D L Haynes c Russell b DeFreitas	32				151	109			
Edged low to wicketkeeper									
R B Richardson b Lewis	104		13	273	229				
Beaten off pitch									
C L Hooper b Illingworth	31			72	64				
Sweeping, ball dragged on by gloves									
*V A Richards c Lewis b Lewis	22			43	26				
Shield ball to mid-off									
A L Logie c Atherton b Lewis	28			57	54				
Square cut to gully b mid-off									
*P J L Dujon b DeFreitas	8			1	29	17			
Beaten off pitch									
M D Marshall not out	6			80	43				
Extras (lb 7, nb 9)	13								
Total (107.3 overs, 441mins)	292								
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52 (Haynes 18 not out, 2-86 (Richardson 26), 3-148 (Richardson 47), 4-194 (Richardson 83), 5-237 (Richardson 103), 6-259 (Dujon 6), 7-269 (Marshall 29), 8-267 (Marshall 29), 9-265 (Marshall 29).									
WEST INDIES: Second Innings									
P V Simmons b DeFreitas	16	6s	4s	4s	37	23			
Played round off-cut									
D L Haynes c Hick b DeFreitas	8			1	26	22			
Square cut hard to second slip									
R B Richardson c Hick b DeFreitas	0				1	2			
Square cut at second slip's head									
C L Hooper not out	55		8	142	91				
*V A Richards not out	78	1	9	134	97				
Extras (lb 4, nb 1)	5								
Total (83 wickets, 40.4 overs)	157								
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23 (Simmons 15), 2-24 (Hooper 0), 3-34 (Hooper 0), 4-34 (Hooper 0), 5-34 (Hooper 0), 6-34 (Hooper 0), 7-34 (Hooper 0), 8-34 (Hooper 0), 9-34 (Hooper 0).									
INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 31-33 (14 overs), 50 (32 min, 19 overs), 100 (137 min, 31.4 overs), 150 (165 min, 32.2 overs), 157 (165 min, 32.2 overs). Innings closed at 5.52.									
West Indies won by 7 wickets.									
Man of the match: R B Richardson (47 runs).									
Umpires: D R Shepherd and B Dudson.									
PREVIOUS MATCHES: Headingley (June 6 to 10): England won by 115 runs. Lord's (June 20 to June 24): Match drawn. Trent Bridge (July 4-5): West Indies won by nine wickets.									
MATCH TO COME: The Oval (August 8 to 12).									

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